



# INDUSTRIAL WORKER

★ Education

★ Organization

★ Emancipation

ONE DOLLAR

## How Stress Kills Workers

Workplace stress is not some abstract pop psychology term as the bosses would like you to think. Stress is a real physiological process that destroys the function of the immune system -- but the worker blames his or her own body rather than the true cause: wage slavery!

Stress starts in the brain. The boss rags on a worker day in and day out -- but we can take it, right? Wrong! The vicious harangue of bosses takes a toll by causing the brain to send a message to the pituitary gland to release the hormone ACTH. ACTH then goes to the cortex or outer layers of the adrenal gland. There the ACTH stimulates release of steroids called corticosteroids. In turn these corticosteroids suppress immunity. The result is increase in the rate of disease from everything like colds and flu to cancer.

Cancer is of particular concern where workers are exposed to cancer-causing chemicals or smoke (so-called carcinogens). The suppression of the immune system makes us more easily develop malignancies. Why? Because normally the cancers we develop are stopped by antibodies from our immune system. Stress prevents the immune system from making the right antibodies to fight the cancer. So exposure to chemicals under the stress of the workplace is a double whammy!

How can one fight stress in the workplace? The answer is simple: RESIST! Fight back against the source of the stress any way you can! Why does this work? Your brain will be protected from the lethal effects of stress because when it perceives you are fighting the pressure it will not kick in the extraordinary defense mechanism that ACTH release represents.

So the IWW has had it right all along! Fight back against the Bosses every way you can and you'll live longer. The time has come to stress the bosses, not ourselves. Let their health and self-esteem go down just like they've done to us all these years. The brilliance of Sabotage, from go-slow to creative action, is the key to keeping our health and our sanity in an insane world of capitalist exploiters.

The people of the world do not have to put up with mindless butchery and enslavement by the ruling class. We can reverse the tide of Big Brother's control by stressing Him out instead of ourselves. The success of workers struggles around the world is all but guaranteed if we work together to make the life of the ruling class a living hell!

--Howard Olson

## Military Dictatorship Bans Syndicalists

The boss press has been filled with reports of Yeltsin's struggle against the Communist-dominated parliament, and the efforts of Western leaders like Bill Clinton to back Yeltsin in the crisis. Wobblies generally have little interest in such intra-ruling class struggles, recognizing that both sides are primarily interested in exploiting our labor and keeping us in our place. But in the aftermath of his coup, Yeltsin has launched an all-out assault on the Russian labor movement. The following notes are excerpted from messages slipped out of Russia via electronic mail as the Yeltsin dictatorship was tightening its grip on the country.

Telephone lines have been cut off to the headquarters of the country's main union body, the Federation of Independent Trade Unions of Russia (formerly linked to the regime). Government officials have threatened to dissolve these unions and seize their assets. The 65 million-member FNPR

had been organizing a series of protest strikes to protest the increasingly common practice of paying wages months after they are due. Given enormous inflation levels, workers are often unable to buy even the most basic necessities when wages are finally paid.

When FNPR leaders denounced Yeltsin's Sept. 21 suspension of Parliament as "a coup d'etat" and called on the labor movement to use "all available means including strikes" against it, telephone service was cut off and the government revealed plans to outlaw deductions of union dues from workers' pay checks and to seize control of social insurance funds traditionally administered by the unions. But the FNPR backed off from proposals to launch a general strike against the government. Instead it called on unions to maintain their state of pre-strike readiness and appealed to authorities to "find a reasoned compromise, and ensure a peaceful solution to the present

political crisis." An extraordinary congress of the FNPR was set for Oct. 28; at press time it was unclear whether it would be permitted to go forward.

Telephone lines to the independent KAS-KOR Workers Information Center were also cut off for a few days immediately after Yeltsin's coup but have since been restored.

October 4 the Ministry of Justice (sic!) outlawed a broad variety of "pro-communist and nationalist organizations" including the fascist Russian National Unity and the social-democratic Party of Labor. The list of banned organizations did not include Civic Union (the association of entrepreneurs and industrial managers) which supported parliament and declared its loyalty to Rutskoi. But the Confederation of Anarcho-syndicalists (KAS) was on the list of banned "pro-communist and nationalist organizations" though it had declared that it supported neither Yeltsin nor Rutskoi, and instead called upon people to stop work and create popular organizations from below.

The extent to which either side had popular support is not clear. What is clear is that while rich Russians, foreign journalists and businessmen watched like ghouls from the roof tops of luxury apartment buildings, cheering while people were being shot, many people below were experiencing a deep tragedy.

In the future you may hear little of any opposition in Russia, but that does not mean it doesn't exist. It means it was repressed, just like it was repressed before glasnost. After a while it even begins to appear to people like there is no opposition, especially when there is strong censorship. This is what is beginning to happen now.

## SOLIDARITY NEEDED

Please write to the Russian government, demanding that it lift the ban on the Confederation of Anarcho-Syndicalists (KAS) and other labor organizations and unions.

c/o: Russian Embassy, Washington DC 20008

More firsthand reports and analysis from Moscow  
pages 4 and 10

## Miner Charged

Roger Wallace Warren, 49-year old member of Canadian Association of Smelter and Allied Workers, was charged Oct. 16/93 with 9 counts of first degree murder. An underground explosion in Sept. 1992 killed the 9 scabs (6 were union members) at the Yellowknife gold mine. The union has been on strike since May 1992 after owner Royal Oak Mines locked out workers and refused to negotiate.

To send support: CASAW/CLASS, PO Box 1628, Yellowknife NWT X1A 2P2 Canada.

## 3rd Person Jailed for Not Talking

Oct. 5, Kim Trimiew was jailed on contempt charges for refusing to testify before a federal grand jury in Spokane WA. She became the 3rd witness jailed in recent months for refusing to talk about alleged actions of the Animal Liberation Front. Kim appeared when summoned but she invoked the Fifth Amendment "right" to remain silent. Kim will remain jailed until the judge decides to release her or until the Spokane grand jury inquisition ends. Kim's family members have been intimidated by unexpected visits, questioning and subpoenas.

The Spokane grand jury also jailed Jonathan Paul and noted environmental author Rik Scarce, who is near 5 months in Spokane County Jail. Other grand juries are operating in Oregon, Michigan, Utah and New Orleans.

Grand jury investigations of political movements are a method of forcing activists to spend time and energy defending themselves, although not guilty of any crime. People are encouraged to write to Kim Trimiew and support her choice to stand against grand jury abuse and government oppression of social movements. Both Kim and Rik Scarce can be contacted at Spokane County Jail, 1100 W. Mallon, Spokane, WA 99201.

## New UFW Alliance: Mixtec-Zapotec Bilingual Front

Thousands of Mixtec and Zapotec Indigenous people, are toiling in the agricultural fields and the service industry of California. Mixtec-Zapotec Bilingual Front (FM-ZB) is the largest and most important Oaxacan organization in California. The new immigrants are Indigenous workers from the Mexican State of Oaxaca who through a joint effort of the UFW and FM-ZB will be encouraged to join the United Farmworkers Union while still maintaining the autonomy of their organization under a new "Minimum Collaboration Agreement."

Under the agreement, the Mixteco-Zapoteco organizations recognize UFW as the legitimate representative of farm workers in the USA for collective bargaining purposes and, at the same time, the UFW recognizes the FM-ZB as the legitimate representative of Mixtecs and Zapotecs in the USA. According to the agreement, the UFW and FM-ZB will initially target cooperative efforts for the San Diego North County, the Los Angeles area, Watsonville, and the San Joaquin Valley. --(nyt)

## In November, I Remember...

### Olli Kinkkonen

**Finnish Immigrant Logger** who was snatched up from his Duluth, Montana boardinghouse bunk during the night of September 18, 1918 by a masked vigilante gang. Fellow Worker Kinkkonen was taken out and tarred and feathered, then lynched. His murderers were never found. This hideous crime occurred in the anti-labor, anti-radical, and xenophobic climate of World War I. Olli Kinkkonen was a victim of that hysteria.

--Harry Siitonen, IWW

San Francisco Bay Area General Membership Branch



# Letters from Fellow Workers

100%! The toxicology project is the right thing to do, and I'm glad to see that it's EcoWobs who are doing it. Just writing in to lend some encouragement. You folks are doing an admirable job.

**LIVE WILD**  
Sabin, EF!  
Reed College

Dear Fellow Workers,

I'm essentially well under the conditions of this toxic-waste-dump-gulag. I've had it rough here in more ways than one. To start with: In spite of the fact that I am an ordained Orthodox Rabbi, the gulagcrats are refusing to permit the Jews here to get together for the Upcoming High Holy Days, so we can pray and study the pertinent Biblical portions. This is directly intended as a persecution of Jewish prisoners. Once they get away doing this to us, because our community is weak, they will move on against other minority religions.

Repression here continues to get worse by the day. The State is bankrupt. They really can't even afford to feed all of us. So what they're doing is giving us

choices between our meals and programs that are intended to provide some improvements in our lives.

I thank you all for bravely printing the truth about the gulag system of Ohio. Few have been willing to do this. There is an interested party in the local media, but the gulagcrats have been intercepting my mail to her. They've also been intercepting a lot of the mail going to courts and even coming from the courts. This is their unlawful method to prevent prisoners from getting across to the court for legal redress and to the media, in order to truthfully present our side of the penal situation and our cases.

Until next time, I remain with a blessing for a more peaceful and just world.

*In Friendship & Solidarity,*  
Jacob Feuerwerker



## Unknown Worker

by Ray Elbourne '93 Tune: Remember Me by Phil Ochs (or what fits)

Oh I am the unknown worker who died for my rights  
The odds were stacked against me but I never dodged a fight  
I was the victim of a system gone insane  
Show me that I didn't die in vain.

*Chorus:*

Remember me when the scabs are running  
Remember me when the henchmen come around  
Remember me when the tide of the fight is turning  
Remember me and please don't let me down.

I've been beat up by the cops and vigilantes too  
My only crime against the world was to have a point of view  
They said I was the enemy of my native land  
Remember me, and why I took a stand.

I carried the banner across the ocean blue  
Stood fast by its colors, to the working class was true  
I never crossed a picket line or played the bosses game  
Show me that I didn't die in vain.

I was a mother and a father, a brother and sister too  
I was fighting for my family and for the likes of you  
I was fighting for the benefits that you have today  
Remember me and keep fighting the Union way.

## IWW Industrial Union Directory

### FOREST WORKERS IU 120

**IU120 Aardvark Sawmill Co.** -David Everest, PO Box 54 Balfour BC V0G 1C0 Canada. (604)229-4978

### BUILDING CONSTRUCTION WORKERS IU 330

**IU330 Custom Wood Screen Doors Artisan Shop**-Paul Kay, 606 Alamo Pintado #3262, Solvang CA 93463. (805)688-0123

### PRINT & PUBLISHING WORKERS IU 450

**IU450 Blackbird Design Job Shop** -394 Euclid Ave. #301, Toronto ON M6G 2S9 Canada. (416)941-9945

**IU450 Harbinger Publications Job Shop** -Delegate: Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd., Columbia SC 29201 (803)254-9398

**IU450 Lakeside Press Job Shop** -1334 Williamson, Madison WI 53703. (608)255-1800

**IU450 New Earth Press Job Shop** -1921 Ashby Ave. Berkeley CA 94703. (510)549-0176

**IU450 P&L Printing Job Shop** -2298 Clay, Denver CO 80211. (303)433-1852

**IU450 Street of Crocodiles Letter Press Job Shop** PO Box 20610, Seattle WA 98102. (206)726-5924

**IU450 Typesetting Etc. Job Shop** -1095 Market St. #210, San Francisco CA 94103

### FOOD WORKERS IU 460

**IU460 Fairhaven Co-operative Flour Mill Job Shop** 1115 Railroad Ave., Bellingham, WA 98225

### DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION 500

**Industrial Transportation Research & Organizing Project** Arthur J. Miller, PO Box 5464 Tacoma WA 98415-0464

### MARINE TRANSPORT WORKERS IU 510

**IU510 West Coast MTW - Sea Dive Job Shop** Delegate: Colin Dewey 60 Walter St. San Francisco CA 94114

### EDUCATION WORKERS IU 620

**IU620 Education WOB (Workers Organizing Bulletin)** EWIU 620, PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045

**IU620 UC Berkeley Recyclers Job Branch** 620 Eshleman, Berkeley CA 94720

### ENTERTAINMENT WORKERS IU 630

**IU630 General Organizing Committee Coordinator** Jim Barclay 75A Elm St., Worcester MA 01609

**IU630 Boulevard Bingo Job Shop** -Delegate: Tina Gaffney (215)821-5622

**IU630 Buskers Rag Newsletter** PO Box 1400, Brewster MA 02631

**IU630 The Living Theatre Job Shop** -PO Box 20180, New York NY 10009 - 8959. Tel: (212)865-3957

Fax: (212)865-3234

### IU630 Musicians & Performing Artists Reference Library

Worcester Public Library, Salem Square, Worcester MA 01608

**IU630 SF Bay Area Jazz Musicians' Service Organization** (510)704-0234

**IU630 Workers Stories & Workers Lives Job Shop** c/o SE Michigan GMB, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn MI 48126

### GENERAL DISTRIBUTION WORKERS IU 660

**IU660 Aron's Records Job Shop** -Los Angeles CA. delegate: Andrew Willett (213)255-9094

**IU660 Jura Books Job Shop** -110 Crystal St. Petersham, Sydney NSW, Australia

**IU660 Time Tested Books Job Shop** 1114 - 21st. Street, Sacramento CA 95814. (916)447-5696

**IU660 Wooden Shoe Books & Records Job Shop** 112 S. 20th St. Philadelphia PA 19103. (215)569-2477

### PUBLIC SERVICE WORKERS IU 670

**IU670 Ann Arbor Tenants Union Job Shop** 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor MI 48109. (313)763-6876

**IU670 Berkeley Recycling Center Job Shop** M. Carlstroem, 2515 Piedmont #8, Berkeley CA 94607.

**IU670 Socialist Party USA Nat'l Office Job Shop** 516 W. 25th St. #404, New York NY 10001. (212)691-0776.

## Industrial Worker



**industrial strength organizer**

### Industrial Worker Collective

Articles may be submitted to any of the following editors:

**IW Coordinator:** PO Box 4217, Stn E, Ottawa ON K1S 5B2 Canada. Deadline for copy, 10th of each month.

Tel: (613) 231-2922.

E-Mail: indwrk@web.apc.org

**Chicago IW Editors; Literature Dept:** 1476 Irving Park, Chicago IL 60613.

E-Mail: jditz@igc.apc.org

**International & Book Reviews:** PO Box 762, Cortland NY 13045.

E-Mail: jbekken@apc.igc.org

**Humor & Cartoons:** Wage Slave World News Box 1217 Madison WI 53702

E-mail: huckkono@igc.apc.org

**Denver IW Editors:** 2412 E. Colfax, Denver CO 80206.

**Nukes/Conversion/Toxics Editor:** Mother Courage Productions, 4720 S. Findlay, Seattle WA 98118

Tel: (206)723-0403

**Feature Articles Planning:** Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn MI 48126. Tel: (313) 581-2065

**Mail Coordinators:** Madison GMB.

## IWW Directory

Job Shop: IWW organized workplace. GMB: General Membership Branch. IU: Industrial Union. Delegate: member who collects dues and signs up new members.

### AUSTRALIA

**NEW SOUTH WALES:** Jura Books -110 Crystal St, Petersham, Sydney, NSW

**Sydney Area Group** -Del: Ray Elbourne, Corner Dittons Ln. & Old Illawara Hwy, Sutton Forest NSW 2577.

**VICTORIA:** Melbourne Area Group-POB 1738Q GPO Melbourne, 3001.

### CANADA

**BRITISH COLUMBIA:** SE BC Group-POB 54, Balfour,V0G 1C0. David Everest 604/229-4978

**MANITOBA:** Winnipeg GMB - B. Mackay, PO Box 3204, GNPO, R3C 4E7

**ONTARIO:** Blackbird Design IU450 Job Shop- 394 Euclid Ave #301, Toronto M6G 2S9. 416/972-6293

**Ottawa GMB**-POB 4217 Stn E, K1S 5B2. 613/231-2922

**Toronto Group**-11 Andrews Ave M6J 1S2. 416/941-9945 Meetings 1st Thurs. of month 7 pm; phone for location.

### UNITED KINGDOM

**Leicester** Del: F.Lee 22 Vicarage Lane Belgrave, LE4 5PD. 053/366-1835

**Swindon/Bristol/Oxford GMB** Kevin Brandstatter, 9 Omdurman St. Swindon, Wilts SN2 1HA

**York** -Delegate: D.Czunys, 13 Wolsley, York YO15BQ.

### UNITED STATES

#### CALIFORNIA: Berkeley:

**Berkeley Recycling Ctr IU670 Job Shop** - M. Carlstroem 2515 Piedmont #8, 94607

**New Earth Press IU450 Job Shop**-1921 Ashby Av. 94703. Dave Karoly (510)549-0176.

**UC Berkeley Recyclers IU620 Branch**- 620 Eshleman, 94720. Del: Daniel Widener.

**IWW Local 1/Mendocino-Humboldt GMB**-Delegates: Judi Bari, POB 656 Willits 95490(msg:707/468-1660); Herb Jager 114 E. Laurel, Ft. Bragg 95437 (707/937-3457).

**Los Angeles GMB**- Del: Andrew Willett 1136 Arbor Dell Rd. 90041.

**Sacramento- Time Tested Books IU660**- 1114 21st St, 95814. 916/447-5696

**San Diego Group** - RMR Kroopkin, 2675 Fletcher Pkwy #211, El Cajon CA 92020.

619/460-2907

**Santa Cruz GMB**-PO Box 534, 95061.

#### San Francisco:

**SF Bay Area GMB**-1095 Market St. #204, 94103. 415/863-WOBS

**Typesetting Etc. IU450 Job Shop** - 1095 Market St. #210, 94103

**West Coast Marine Transport Workers IU510** Del: Colin Dewey 60 Walter St., 94114. 415/864-6037.

#### COLORADO: Denver:

**Denver/Boulder GMB**-2412 E. Colfax, 80206. (303)388-1065 Office hrs Sat.9-12.

**Meetings 1st Thur.@month 7 pm** Del: Cliff Sundstrom, 910 E 8th Ave #202, 80218. (303)832-7602. Brendan Ruiz, PO Box 370663, 80237-0663.

**P&L Printing IU450 Job Shop**- 2298 Clay, 80211. 303/433-1852

**FLORIDA:** J. Lewis, 345 Ocean Dr. #1103, Miami Beach 33139

**GEORGIA:** Atlanta Group - 340 Elmira Pl, 30307. 404/524-1243

**HAWAII:** D.Goldsmith Box 469 University Sta. Honolulu 96822

**IDAHO:** Boise Group-W.Cohan, PO Box 822, Caldwell ID 83606.

**ILLINOIS:** Chicago GMB -New World Resource Ctr 1476 Irving Park, 60613. 312/549-5045. Meetings, 1st Friday 7:30 pm.

**LOUISIANA:** Baton Rouge Group- Del: Steve Donahue 729 Bungalow Lane 70802. (504)389-9572.

**MARYLAND:** Baltimore GMB -R.Bey, Black Shield, Box 1681, Glen Burnie 21060. 301/367-3024

**MICHIGAN:** Ann Arbor Tenants Union IU670 Job Shop- 4001 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor 48109. 313/763-6876.

**SE Mich. GMB**- Delegates: Albert Parsons 313/769-0695; Michael Kozura, 7252 Kendal, Dearborn 48126. 313/581-2065

**MINNESOTA:** Minneapolis Group - Box 2391, Loop Stn, 55402. (612)339-5002

**Duluth Group**-1514 N. 8th Av.E, 55805. Del: Jack Rosenquist

**MISSISSIPPI:** Gulfport Group- C.G.Streuly 601/896-3515

**MONTANA:** Butte-Mark Ross 111 W.Quartz 59701.(406)782-4465

**NEVADA:** Tahoe Group- Larry Steinberg, POBox 1114 Dayton 89403. (702)246-3120

**NEW JERSEY:** Paterson Group-POB 8532 Haledon 07058. Matt Bolton 201/790-3076

**NEW YORK:** Central NY Group- POBox 762, Cortland 13045

**NY GMB**-Delegates: Brian Mahoney 1717 N.Thompson Dr, Bay Shore NY 11706

(516)586-2103; Rochelle Semel, RD 1 Box 158-B, Hartwick 13348.(607)293-6489)

**Socialist Party USA Natl Office IU670**

**Job Shop**- 516 W. 25th St. #404, NYC 10001. 212/691-0776

**PENNSYLVANIA:** Lancaster Group-PO Box 2084, 17608

**Boulevard Bingo IU630 Job Shop**-Tina Gaffney 215/821-5622.

**Lehigh Valley GMB**-POB 4133 Bethlehem 18018. (215)253-5057. Jeff Kelly (215)866-5728; Mike D'Amore (215)434-0218.

**Reading Group**-PO Box 8468, 19603. Del:Dennis Good (215)921-2459; Rick Page (215)562-3487

#### Philadelphia:

**Philadelphia GMB**- 4722 Baltimore Ave. 19143. (215)747-0855.

**Temple University IWW Group**-2106 N. Broad St. 19122. Contact: Anthony Newkirk (215)765-3511.

**Wooden Shoe Books & Records IU660**

**Job Shop** - 112 S. 20th St, Philadelphia 19103. 215/569-2477.

**SOUTH CAROLINA:** Harbinger Publications IU450 Job Shop- Merll Truesdale, 18 Bluff Rd. Columbia 29201. 803/254-9398

**TEXAS:** Austin Group - PO Box 49523, 78765. 512/416-9619

**UTAH:** Salt Lake Group - Tony Roehrig, PO Box 520514, Salt Lake City 84152-0514. 801/485-1969

**VERMONT:** Burlington Group- Anne Petermann, Orin Langlelle POBox 804, 05402. 802/658-2403

**WASHINGTON:** Tacoma- Industrial Transportation Research & Organizing - Arthur J.Miller, POB 5464, Tacoma 98415-0464

**Seattle- Industrial/Environmental Toxicology**-POB 20402, Seattle 98102. Stan Anderson 206/367-0477.

**Street of Crocodiles Letter Press IU450**

**Job Shop**- PO Box 20610, Seattle 98102. 206/726-5924

**WEST VIRGINIA:** Del: Rick Wilson, 1019 2nd St.W., Huntington 25701

**WISCONSIN:** Lakeside Press IU450 Job Shop- 1334 Williamson, Madison 53703. 608/255-1800. Delegate: Jerry Chernow

**Madison GMB**-Box 2605, 53701. 608/255-1800. Del: Tim Wong, Jerry Chernow

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## Around the Union

# Duplication Workers Network

All workers engaged in the quick-copy industry are invited to join in the new duplication workers network in order to facilitate organizing in our industry. As the duplication industry is characterized by small shops of 5-30 people and great variability in rates of pay, overtime, and working conditions, we have a long road to build a viable workers movement, but the increasing number of duplication workers makes organizing in the industry imperative. Chains of duplication stores such as AgfaGraphics, Kinkos, Pip Printing, and Sir Speedy are consolidating their domination of this industry and the bosses of these corporations are now determining the overall standards in duplication.

If we as workers are going to resist the growing power of bosses, both mid-level and corporate, it is necessary that we organize not only in our shops but in company wide and industry wide workers organizations.

If you work for one of the big duplication corporations, or a smaller "mom and pop" shop, we ask that you participate in helping us organize the industry.

Write to us at:

Duplication Workers Network  
c/o Philadelphia GMB-IWW  
4722 Baltimore Ave.  
Philadelphia, PA 19143  
(215) 747-0855



## Help Wanted!

In San Francisco some Wobs and others got together to form a combination not-for-profit Temp agency and a Temp Workers Union. It will probably go into hibernation for 3 months while we re-organize. The idea is still sound and we can now benefit from our experiences and mistakes.

We now know that discussing something for 6 months is not synonymous to 6 months of planning. We know that "if we build it, they will come" only applies to Temp Workers (150 in 2- 1/2 months), but the Temp agency (the reason the Temp Workers join) must get jobs or the whole thing becomes a therapy session for unemployed Temps. Running an agency for Temps cannot be done by well-meaning amateurs. It requires pros who must be committed to the cause, but they must also be paid. The Temp Union must face up to the fact that it is acting as an employer and must treat its workers with dignity. Volunteers become slaves after a while, unless they are rich or have outside income they will starve. Or, if they are working another job, they will not be able to devote quality time to the needs of the Temp Union.

Full time workers are needed for:

Accounting/bookkeeping  
Sales  
Fundraising  
Office Staff

Fundraising should be in small amounts to get as broad a base of community support as possible among fellow local unions and foundations and nonprofits. Money is needed because employers pay their bills monthly and the workers need to be paid weekly, hence the need for a float of cash on hand. Also, after 3 months preparation, an office will be needed and brochures, flyers, business phones, stamps etc.

Sales means getting accounts set up beforehand, with employers given a

date certain when we will be open. Originally, we will quote them a price \$1.00 less than the cheapest rate. After 3 months, the rates can go up.

Accountant can set up a system and check the books once a month.

Office staff can be one worker with a phone with unlimited service with an answering machine, pager, and/or call forwarding.

Sales and fundraising should be done on commission (deferred payments).

We tried to have Temps doing the office staffing, etc, gaining credit towards their Agency Fee (10% Union dues), but it did not work. The "office" even if it's in someone's home, needs to be consistently staffed by one person.

If the 3 month ground work is done properly in advance, we will have a going Union/Hiring Hall in another 3 months. 6 months later, the Temps will be headed towards total control of the Temp work here in the city, and will be able to stand up for their rights without fear. The employer's only alternative is to hire full time workers (most Temps want full time work). We must beat the bosses at their own game and also use their own greed for short term profits against them. The bosses only have the power the workers abrogate to them.

--Ray Levy



## Video Delayed

### OLDER=BOLDER: ANARCHIST ELDERS

Many thank-yous to: Wobs and non-Members who already sent orders to IWW-Lit for my upcoming film video release (August 1993 *Industrial Worker*). There is a slight delay in the \$4,000 completion funds. At the time the announcement was printed, it appeared funding would be quick, however the General Executive Board declined to invest in the video and sent it instead to membership referendum.

Keep your fingers crossed and if approved, this video can come into your hands to be shown in your homes, workplaces, and benefits.

Thanks for your patience. IWW Lit will be returning your checks and when the video is actually ready, it'll be listed (again!) in the *Industrial Worker*. Let's be optimistic together that it will be ready for you during the first months of 1994.

--zimya, mother courage productions

## Immigrants Welcome

The Love & Rage Revolutionary Anarchist Federation calls for an international day of action, Monday, May 9, 1994, focusing on INS offices, detention centers, anti-immigrant group offices, and other relevant locations.

A multi-lingual poster announcing the action is being produced and will be available soon. An educational pamphlet and leaflets (minimally in English and Spanish) will also be produced.

Local alliances are being developed with other groups and individuals, especially with immigrant groups. A speaking tour featuring European activists is being planned.

The anti-anti-immigration working group can be contacted at: PO Box 3606, Oakland, CA 94609-0606



## The Wobblies Will Be There!

"What! I thought they disappeared years back." This is the kind of response I often get from people when I mention that I belong to the IWW, the Industrial Workers of the World. The IWW is the revolutionary industrial union organization founded in 1905 which brought so much fear into the ruling establishment of the USA in the early 20th century.

The Wobblies organized on an industrial basis, workers the traditional business unions of the American Federation of Labor didn't even want

to touch -- in logging, mining, waterfronts, and agriculture to name a few.

The IWW today does represent a small number on the job. A number of collective printing and other establishments are Wobbly shops, and recent years have seen Job Shops organized in service industries such as food distribution, entertainment and recycling.

What impact does the seemingly marginal IWW have in today's information age capitalism, where the formerly dominant blue collar industry is eclipsed by computer driven technology?

1. IWW militants have always had

an impact beyond their numbers in the broader labor movement, instrumental in winning the 8 hour day and inventing the "strike on the job," or slowdown. Of course, the AFL-CIO can hardly be called mainstream when 85% of the workforce don't belong to any union. Capitalism is carrying on a relentless attack against the remaining union movement. With the North American Free Trade Agreement, capitalists hope to provide the finishing blow.

2. **Classless society.** The IWW Preamble indicates never-ending conflict between the working class and the ruling class within a capitalist system. Whether one operates a lathe or a computer, one is still a wage or salary earner, and the boss makes the profit. It's still a relationship of *order-taker* and *order-giver*. The IWW provides a class analysis that unites all workers.

3. **Democratic, rank-and-file run Unions.** Many Wobs are "two-carders" -- belonging to the IWW while also paying dues to other trade unions at our workplace. Wobblies within these unions are often labor militants, not afraid to confront the boss on working conditions. We fight to maintain democracy and rank-and-file control in opposition to union bureaucracy and hierarchy.

4. **Direct Action.** With the increasing difficulty of winning strikes in today's anti-labor climate, tactics such as slowdowns, sick-ins, work to rule, whistle-blowing (revealing boss's seamy underside to the public), quicky wildcat strikes, and sit-ins are gaining practice as effective means.

5. **Labor Solidarity.** That no worker should ever cross another worker's picket lines is a basic IWW principle. The IWW says that an injury to one is an injury to all.

6. **Internationalism.** The IWW though small is an internationally based organization with groups in Canada, Australia, and Britain. The IWW endorses networking and organizing across international lines as the best way to respond to the increasing power of

*continued on page 12 back cover*

## Boulevard Bingo: Struggle Goes On

(X341341)-- Lehigh Valley IWW has filed another set of unfair labor practice charges, and NLRB has re-opened its case against PASCAL. PASCAL President John Havassy and Allied Air Force President Joseph Fillman have been co-managers of the hall.

Under an agreement made in July, the bingo hall was to reinstate all workers' jobs, pay \$25,000 back wages, and sign a union contract. But 2 days after the contract was signed, the District Attorney revoked PASCAL's license to run bingo games -- due to financial improprieties. Allied Air Force now operates the hall 2 days a week.

At first, Wobbly workers thought AAF boss Fillman would be easier to get along with than the irrational Havassy, but Fillman began to violate the contract immediately.

One provision Fillman objects to is the "agency" clause -- any bingo workers who choose not to join the Union must pay a service fee of \$6/month. The scabs who had crossed the picket line during the strike didn't want to pay, and Fillman told them they didn't have to. Fillman promoted some of his friends to "management" positions, and attempted to pay some workers' fees himself.

When IWW workers tried to file grievances, Fillman would not allow his

supervisors to accept them or to deal with Job Shop delegates. Fillman himself mailed the Union a long list of excuses, but also refused to talk to delegates about these grievances.

At the same time, IWW mailed 3 requests to set final contract language on wages and benefits. AAF failed to respond. On top of all this, AAF has violated its agreement with the DA's office, by continuing to employ former PASCAL management. The DA had demanded none of the former management be employed, as a condition for AAF to keep the bingo license.

AAF has been charged with refusing to bargain over wages and benefits, refusing to bargain over conditions and terms of employment, and illegally attempting to pay the Union fees of certain employees.

Havassy, meanwhile has not paid any back pay. As a result the NLRB withdrew our conditional settlement, and federal investigators are looking for any hidden assets of PASCAL to be seized for back wages.

Apparently, a few bingo workers themselves have forgotten the meaning of "solidarity." One bingo worker has accepted a "supervisory" position, and now spends her time helping the boss violate our contract. Another worker, apparently upset over not getting all

her back pay, has filed a petition with NLRB to revoke the Union security (agency shop) clause, in order to avoid paying dues or service fees. This particular worker tried during the strike to cut a separate deal with Havassy that would have paid her money but left out her co-workers. Her petition has been put on hold until our NLRB charges against Allied are settled.

Of course, in every labor dispute there are a few workers who think they can get ahead by kissing up to the boss. However, Boulevard Bingo only has about 12 workers altogether, and having 2 or 3 workers sell out gives the boss much more influence on the shop floor. Unfortunately the Bingo Union has had to fight not only bosses, but boneheads within their own ranks.

Allied's lawyer at one point remarked it would be a good idea to promote everybody in the place to supervisors. Fillman is picking up where Havassy left off. Havassy had decided that he would rather go out of business than accept a Labor Union. The Wobs refused to back down, and now Havassy is looking for a real job. Fillman, too, seems willing to drive himself out of business rather than accept the presence of the IWW. And if that is what he wants, we are willing to see that he gets it. (LV Branch Bulletin)



## Workers Have No Country We Are All Citizens of Industry

# International Notes

### Falling Wages

For some in Sweden the 80's were prosperous--shares rose 6 times in value in real terms. A small group of top professionals suddenly found themselves very well off indeed. But for most workers, real income rose less than 5% in the same 10-year stretch. By 1990 most people had regained only the same buying power as in 1977. Gross incomes have risen almost tenfold since 1970, which sounds like a lot. But so have prices, rents and all other charges. According to a fact sheet published by the Swedish union federation (now in a social compact with the government and industry in which they pledge not to strike) LO, the average working family has less than 15,000 kronor (US\$2200) left per year to spend on hobbies, holidays and luxuries after basic expenses. They are just keeping their heads above water.

### Capitalist Charged With Toxic Murder

The South African managing Director of the world's biggest mercury waste processing plant, owned by British multi-national Thor Chemicals, has been arrested and charged with responsibility for death by mercury poisoning of workers. Joining Steve van der Vyver in court Sept. 3, were British citizen William Smith, and chemical engineer Gavin Daniels. All 3 were charged with culpable homicide, fraud and 42 other counts under South Africa's Machinery and Occupational Safety Act.

Among the charges was deliberate falsification of workers' medical records for a continuous period of 13 months. Smith, Thor's mercury expert, was in South Africa overseeing operations at the plant during this time. More than 30 workers have suffered mercury poisoning at the plant, including 22-year-old Peter Cele who died of mercury poisoning after spending 16 months in coma. His fellow worker, Engelbert Ngcobo, has also been comatose for 16 months and is reported to be deteriorating.

Thor chemicals imports toxic mercury waste from all over the world.

### Belize Women Workers

"The labor situation for women in Belize can be considered the worst of all situations for women in Central America. In spite of the fact that it is one of the least populated countries of the region, it is also one of the poorest countries of Central America," says

Irma McClaurin.

McClaurin, who carried out a study of the labor situation of women, found that most women in Belize are exempt from minimum labor, social, economic and assistance guarantees. Only 24.9% of the total work force are women, and of these, more than 75% earn less than \$20 a month.

### German Workers Occupy Potash Plant

Workers have occupied the Bischofferode potash mine since January 7th to protest a planned takeover by BASF and loss of many jobs. Bischofferode is a town in the former East German province of Thuringen. As part of the old German Democratic Republic it had one of the most important potash mines in the country. But since the West took over, the workforce in the potash industry has been slashed from 22,000 workers to just 700 today.

BASF is in the process of trying to buy the East German company that controlled the potash industry from the German agency set up to privatize East German industry. BASF has announced that it would close the Bischofferode potash mine even though it is one of the best, most readily exploitable

### Guatemala Recognizes Pepsi Union

#### But Company Refusing

October 1, the Guatemalan Minister of Labor officially recognized the Pepsi Cola Bottling Plant Trade Union (Embotelladora La Mariposa S.A. Anexos y Conexos) in Guatemala City.

250 people have joined the union, over 30% of the workforce. The workers also report that threats and intimidation have eased in the last two weeks as a result of international pressure.

But the bottling plant owner, La Mariposa held a demonstration at the Labor Ministry Office Oct.1, degrading the union and carried effigies of union members portrayed as monsters. And Oct.4, La Mariposa filed an injunction against the union, an unprecedented move. The workers report that management would just as soon close the plant as recognize the union.

#### WHAT YOU CAN DO NOW:

Send messages to urge the employer to recognize and respect the union by negotiating a collective bargaining agreement. Urge that they refrain from using further violence.

**Familia Castillo**  
Embotelladora la Mariposa S.A.  
44 Calle 2-00, Zona 12  
Guatemala, Guatemala  
(Fax: 502 2 773733)

For more information contact NISGUA 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW #241, Washington, DC 20005. 202-223-6474.

### SENEGAL General Strike

A Sept.2 general strike in the West African nation of Senegal forced the government to defer plans for a tax increase and 15% wage cut for government employees.

### FRANCE Bank strike

9 Sept., 5,000 bank workers struck in Paris protesting cutbacks. Bank workers also struck in other cities. Many non-unionized workers took part in the actions.

sources of potash in the country. To protest these plans, workers seized the mine last January. Several workers launched a hunger strike July 1 (which ended Sept. 20th) to call attention to their struggle.

The German Free Workers Union (FAU-IWA) has helped organize solidarity demonstrations across the country, including a mass demonstration in Bischofferode itself August 21st, followed by a protest march to Berlin. In September the workers started production at the mine under their own control. 2,000 workers joined a Berlin solidarity demonstration in Sept. 19th.

This is not the only factory occupation in Germany. Workers at DKLF's Leipzig plant occupied their factory beginning May 26, for 3 weeks--maintaining production under workers control--to protest plans to fire 700 workers there, before union leaders succeeded in calling the action off. And 1,000 miners occupied the Monopol mine in Bergkamen Sept. 21st to protest its scheduled closing. The FAU reports growing dissatisfaction with the official union movement, noting that membership has now fallen below a third of the workforce. FAU members are active in efforts to form new, revolutionary unions through which workers can effectively defend their rights.

(information from Direkte Aktion)

### INDIA 20 Million Strike

Sept.9, a general strike protested economic plans imposed on India by World Bank and International Monetary Fund. Steel mills, coal mines, chemical plants, military plants, oil refineries, banks, insurance companies and drug and pharmaceutical plants were shut in much of the country. Postal and other state workers including 6 million teachers also walked out despite threats of retaliation. Striking workers defied police clubs and tear gas as they picketed factories and blocked railroads and highways. At least 3,000 were arrested.

The general strike followed a Sept.1 strike of bank workers, an oil workers' strike Sept.2, and an Air India strike Sept.6. Mass demonstrations of women, peasant, student and farm worker organizations supported strikers.

The strike was the latest in a series of protests called by the Platform of Mass Organizations. The Platform is a coalition of labor unions, women, peasant, student and professional organizations and left parties. It was formed last April to mobilize resistance to IMF and World Bank. The Platform demands a stop to "retrenchments" and plant shutdowns, guaranteed right to a job, a big increase in the minimum wage, price reductions, and no more concessions to multinational banks and corporations.

The Platform also condemns communalism (religious chauvinism), demands liberation of bonded labor, and calls for equal rights of women.

1.8 million long-haul truck drivers went on strike in mid-September, over license fees. "All the trucks are off the roads," said Ajay Pal Singh, v.p. of All India Motor Transport Congress. This tremendous labor struggle in the world's second most populous country was largely unreported in major US media although the subsequent tragic earthquake was reported.

### ITALY Train Station Held

Chemical workers of Crotona seized and wrecked their plant in Calabria Sept. 7, in response to proposed layoffs. They have occupied the Crotona train station for the whole month of September, and blocked the main coastal road with barrels of volatile chemicals. Train engineers began a wildcat strike Sept.19, against planned layoffs.

### NICARAGUA Strike Pushes Back Government

30,000 Nicaraguan bus, truck and taxi drivers of the National Transport Commission walked out Sept.20 to protest hikes in vehicle taxes and gasoline prices. All major cities were shut down as unemployed workers joined strikers in street battles across the country. Workers had armed themselves in self-defense after Chamorro ordered police to fire on strikers. Many workers carried machetes, boards and rocks. 2 persons were killed (one a police chief) and 20 wounded. An unknown group attacked "Radio Corporacin" [right wing] with a fragmentation grenade. Many non-Sandinistas--and even former supporters of the contras--joined in the struggle. "Now we are all just poor people fighting together," said electrician Oscar Mejia.

6 unarmed former Sandinista soldiers occupied Red Cross headquarters Sept.22, alleging the lack of fulfillment of promises for land and financing made by government.

Sept.24, the government was forced to repeal new taxes and freeze gas prices.

### Soldiers Quit

In October, Norwegian soldiers with UN forces in Somalia resigned as a group, citing demands for better pay and benefits. The mass resignation took place 2 weeks before the end of their terms.

#### SOLIDARITY NEEDED

Please write to the Russian government, demanding that it lift the ban on the Confederation of Anarcho-Syndicalists (KAS) and other labor organizations and unions.

c/o: Russian Embassy, Washington DC 20008

## Reports from Moscow

**28 Sept** --Moscow City Soviet member Boris Kagarlitsky, who is in charge of liaison between the deputies' meeting and the trade unions, declared at the press conference that the struggle to defend the parliament remained the principal thrust of the activity of all progressive organisations in Russia. Thanks to the actions of the people's deputies, Kagarlitsky said, other forces such as the trade unions had obtained a breathing-space and an opportunity to prepare for further actions under the conditions of a "liberal-fascist" regime.

**28 Sept. 9 pm.** -- Before my eyes, the Chairman of Cheremushkinsky Regional Soviet was thrown to the ground and viciously beaten after he had urged the militia through a megaphone not to use violence against the people. OMON troops then threw to the ground and began kicking a young woman with a video camera who had caught the incident on tape.

**6 Oct** -- Media report dozens of journalists were arrested, severely beaten up, held in Lefortovo KGB prison (together with leaders of parliament and civilians including children), their films exposed. (*Izvestiya*, 6 Oct) I doubt that any of the policemen or military will be punished - they feel that this is their time and they can do whatever they want. This is what they were doing for years, but what's going on now is just outrageous.

And it's not just police and the military, every high-rank "democrat" is trying to make revenge on his opponents. Yeltsin had his fun destroying parliament, Moscow's mayor Luzhkov gladly witnessed arrests and beatings of Moscow City Soviet deputies that

bothered him a lot about the legal grounds of his multiple political and business activities. Heads of local administrations are disbanding troublesome Soviets in their regions.

In the situation where there are virtually no political organizations that really represent the interests of different social groups, Soviets were almost the only opposition to the government course, but with them disbanded, oppositional organizations and papers closed, and martial law and censorship introduced, the road for Yeltsin's triumphant elections is clean.

Long live the real freedom of choice, the choice between the Big Brother and yourself!

*Vecherniya Moskva*, Moscow evening paper 6 Oct, reported none of president's decrees implemented censorship, the censorship that existed was dictated by the needs of the moment and they won't work any more. *Nezavisimaya gazeta*, one of the pro-democratic, pro-Yeltsin papers appeared on that day with half a page of blank space plus some articles lacking the starting sentences. The editor-in-chief of hysterically pro-government *Moskovsky Komsomolets* said on TV that blank spaces in some papers is the fault of editors. He declared there will be no blank spaces in his paper because they publish the truth and nothing else but the truth and the truth can't be censored. Do you love me, *Moskovsky Komsomolets*? Yes, I love you, Big Brother! --(KAS-KOR)



## Santa Cruz Wobs Feed the Hungry Mayor Says Hide Them

by x342281

Intensified police repression of San Francisco Food Not Bombs (FNB) ordered by Mayor Frank Jordan led to the seizure of the SFFNB truck and the battery and arrest of two relief people from Santa Cruz Food Not Bombs. Food Not Bombs is an all-volunteer organization started in Boston in 1980 that works to form community by cooking and giving free food. FNB seeks to break the myth of scarcity, as nearly all the donated food served would have otherwise been thrown away.

The explosion in the numbers of homeless, unemployed, people walking the streets and sleeping in brightly lit ATM alcoves and bus stop benches has damaged the feel-good facade which San Francisco officials like to project. The city's answer to this public relations dilemma is Operation Matrix. Operation Matrix uses the police force to systematically harass and drive out of sight the growing hoards of people on the streets with nowhere else to go. SFFNB has remained steadfast in continuing to feed on schedule. Santa Cruz IWW members has played a role towards community building supporting efforts of Santa Cruz FNB.

On Wednesday, September 8, just as two SCFNB workers arrested the previous day saw both their charges and soup buckets mysteriously disappear, FW x342281 watched SFPD arrest two SCFNB workers who were serving food. The police dumped the soup in the street before they drove off. x342281 then joined several FNB workers from both San Francisco and Santa Cruz in cooking soup for the evening meal, during which a rally was planned. At the time of the evening feed, hundreds of hungry people converged on Civic Center Plaza, along with over a hundred riot police. Two San Francisco FNB workers drove up in front of the riot squads and dropped off the soup to Christa R. and FWs x342097 and x342281, who scooped out the soup with styrofoam cups and served as quickly as possible. The mob then went on a spontaneous march to the symphony hall, chanting "Food Not Bombs." The riot police were relegated to an escort role.

On Friday, September 10, FWs x342097 and x342404 joined several SCFNB and other activists at a lunch rally, where arrestees included Santa Cruz homeless activist Linda the Lark Edwards, for interfering with an officer. The following Wednesday FWs x342404 networked and sold IWs and x342281 gave an open mike speech and took pictures while small groups of plainclothes cops arrived. Several large plastic bags of bagels and other breads arrived, and people began taking bread out of the bag. SFPD police quickly arrested FNB founder Keith

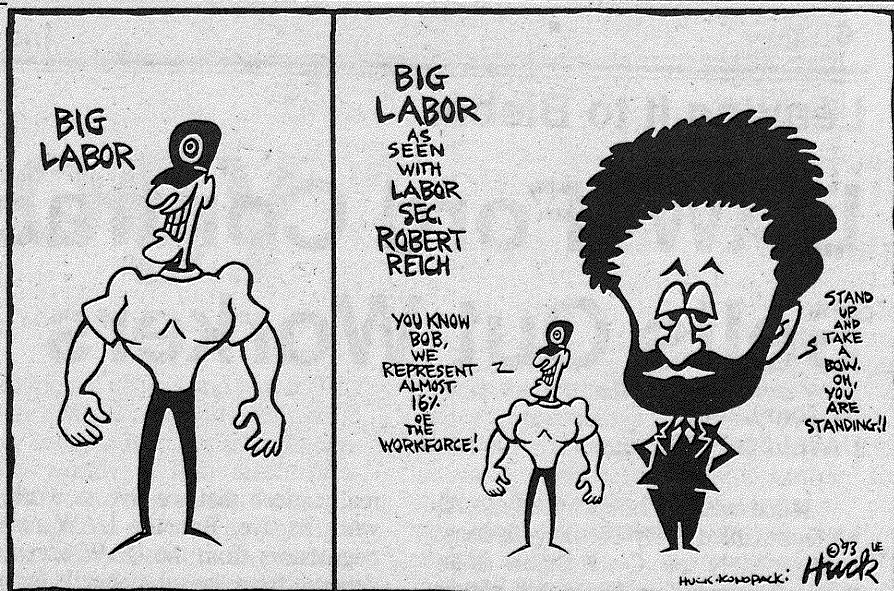
McHenry, who was holding up the bags. Several elder women in bright dresses carried trays of cakes and signs reading "Let Them Eat Cake." When the soup arrived a Santa Cruz Refuse & Resist activist and FW x342281 served soup without incident.

In the meantime, several Wobblies involved themselves in SCFNB efforts to maintain Wednesday salad meals near the weekly Pacific Avenue Farmer's Market in Santa Cruz. FW x341697 and housemates made their kitchen available to SCFNB where FWs x342099, x341697, x342279 & x342617 joined several SCFNB workers on September 15. FW x342279 and housemates have made their kitchen available on subsequent Wednesdays, where FWs x342099, x342279, x342617, & x342404 have joined other SCFNB workers in keeping the local efforts intact.

The situation escalated at a Wednesday rally on Wednesday, September 29, where FNB supporters including FW x342281 were arrested on obstructing justice charges for blocking police access to FNB food servers in a human chain. FW x340507 was arrested inside the police line while eating a bagel. Most of the fifty-six arrested were cited and released within six hours.

FW x342404 served as contact person on the outside for those in jail, arranged the pickup of released Santa Cruz detainees, and served as a networker between the Santa Cruz team and San Francisco contacts, including legal contacts at Epi-center, an anarchist clearinghouse.

As of this writing, daily arrests continue, as Mayor Frank Jordan builds his campaign for reelection as the man "who got the bums off the streets." Meanwhile the Santa Cruz IWW continues its work to insure the expansion and long-term survival of Food Not Bombs in its own community. FW x341697 and his housemates have made their kitchen available for a new regular meal scheduled for Saturdays, which began on October 9. FW x342404 and other Wobblies have assisted the greater SCFNB community in creating the Santa Cruz Autonomous Info Shop, using many ideas exchanged at a West Coast Anarchist Gathering, which was attended by a large contingent of Wobblies from Santa Cruz and the Bay Area. FW x342404 has also worked to edit daily e-mail reports from Food Not Bombs and make them available to the community. The Santa Cruz IWW supports this national movement in both confrontations with state power and in important work feeding the hungry.



## Catch-22 for Chemically Injured Workers

Early on the morning of September 16th chemically disabled workers packed a hearing room in Olympia, Washington where four committees of the state legislature were taking testimony on chemically related illnesses. At issue was state policy regarding multiple chemical sensitivity (MCS), a disabling condition caused by exposure to chemicals in the environment.

For the first hour of the hearing representatives from the University of Washington, the Department of Labor and Industries and the Department of Health assessed the problem of chemical illness and described the new Interim Agreement

At the hearing state officials attempted to show their concern over the issue of chemically related diseases and the human suffering entailed. They indicated that not enough has been done in the past and presented their new interim policy as a step forward.

Poisoned workers directly challenged the new policy pointing out its "catch 22": the fact that specifically excludes coverage or consideration of the only objective tests currently available which can document toxic encephalopathy and immune dysfunction (two elements of MCS). To prove your MCS claim you must have objective medical tests but to have these medical tests covered and considered by the state you must first have your claim approved. While the medical community seeks more complete substantiation of testing procedures and

greater study and clarification of chemically related diseases, chemical companies continue to rake in profits and more workers are poisoned and thrown on the scrap heap without compensation.

Fortunately chemically disabled workers are not passively accepting this abuse. They have been organizing, making allies, presenting their case to the community and demanding proper compensation from the state government. They have recently joined forces with the Washington Toxics Coalition and the Washington Committee on Occupational Safety and Health (WASH-COSH) to present a conference on MCS in Seattle on November 13th. This conference featuring nationally recognized experts on MCS will go a long way towards education the labor, environmental, medical legal and social service communities about the dangers of MCS and could lead to a new community coalition to address this problem.

Stan Anderson X332445

## around our union

on Chemically Related Illnesses recently drafted by five state agencies. The second hour of the hearing was reserved for public testimony which largely consisted of statements by poisoned workers describing their struggles to have MCS recognized and covered by the Workers Compensation System.

Over the past several years growing numbers of chemically disabled workers have been filing claims for workers compensation and experiencing long, frustrating delays before finally being denied benefits. MCS is a political hot potato because it raises questions about the safety of a wide range of chemicals common to industrial processes and products. The medical establishment has been stonewalling any real understanding of this disease by challenging the competence of the physicians and researchers who take it seriously. The Washington State Department of Labor and Industries has taken advantage of this medical smokescreen to deny compensation for MCS.

# The Aging Manufacturing Workforce

The average age of workers remaining in the unionized manufacturing sector is high, people are mostly in their 40s or 50s. This aging workforce presents strategic opportunities for corporations to divide the working class.

Caterpillar corporation, the largest manufacturer of heavy equipment, is exploiting this window of opportunity in its recent assaults on its workers.

Approximately 60% of current UAW Caterpillar workers will retire by the time the corporations unilaterally implemented "final offer" expires. The "by name" job security provisions of the "final offer" are directly aimed at these workers closest to retirement, as individuals they have "job security", and incentive to accept what Caterpillar is imposing. But nothing is protected in terms of the workgroup or community.

The introduction of two-tiered wage

systems in the basic industries is another divisive wedge the corporations are driving. Productivity increases through automation, computerization and robotics, means fewer workers accomplish more production.

It is not hard to understand how this situation developed. At Caterpillar, for example, during the 70's there were nearly 40,000 hourly workers represented by the UAW. During that period the UAW membership was extremely militant, not only at the Peoria facilities, but also in Decatur and elsewhere. Wildcat strikes led to a 205 day "authorized" strike. Caterpillar began to increase the number of salaried unorganized workers, while decreasing the number of hourly bargaining unit employees.

When the UAW struck Caterpillar in April 1992 there were just over 13,000 members on strike. Over 23,000 salaried

Caterpillar workers continued to operate the plants. In addition to the salaried scab force, Caterpillar was able to maintain production at an Illinois factory organized by the International Association of Machinists (IAM) and at unorganized plants in North Carolina and Brazil.

Retirees pension and health care costs are major issues in manufacturing. Unions like the UAW negotiated strong benefits for its retired members over the past few decades, one of the most important economic benefits that a long term member receives.

The aging workforce, trends towards longer life spans and the shrinking of the manufacturing workforce are a real threat to Caterpillar profits. A large bargaining unit with a strong union can continue to negotiate increasing benefits to an ever growing pool of retirees. A smaller work force with a co-opted or broken union will

be unable to defend the retirees.

Caterpillar has used the International Harvester-Navistar situation as a propaganda tool to scare the rank and file. IH was once a major company in the farm implement and heavy equipment industry. It went bankrupt during the 80s and then reorganized in a merger with Navistar to form Navistar International. The UAW represents a bargaining unit of approximately 7,000 current employees at Navistar International. That bargaining unit is attempting to support in excess of 20,000 UAW retirees.

Since 1992 Navistar has engaged in a major legal assault in attempting to repudiate its obligations towards these retirees. These attempts to abandon IH retirees have been blocked in the courts, so far. Shop floor solidarity is needed to protect them in the long run.

- Bear



## Leaving It to Bieber

# UAW-Ford Contract Sells Out Workers

by Tom Laney  
UAW Local 879

If that master of hoops hyperbole, Al McGuire called UAW-Ford negotiations, he'd probably see Owen Bieber as an "aircraft carrier" - a big, tough player around the basket, who never gets pushed around. Al might hold that view as long as the first tip-off, before a couple of basic Ford moves left Owen for dead, the "aircraft carrier" exposed as a giant rubber ducky.

Such a fresh view of Bieber might have intrigued those of us who see him as someone who gets a triennial trip to the cleaners courtesy of the Big Three, or hitchhiker Bieber, Caterpillar tracks up his back, thumbing a ride with Big Three execs who are wondering if they should pick him up or run him over again.

While popular views of Owen suggest the amiable, big, bumbling incompetent, the 1993 Ford Contract promotes another, growing view of Bieber as the double-talking huckster, whose word is worth next to nothing; a shell game host, who easily manages the union's secondary leadership at Ford with bribes and threats, local "leaders" who in turn share practically nothing with their own members.

Anti-union in its essence, the Ford agreement is an attack on solidarity, forces Ford workers into competition with one another as well as scab shops, eliminates union work rules, sets up a three-tiered wage system, promotes company unionism and threatens job security by increasing worktime.

Owen Bieber and his Administration Caucus and the reluctance of local leaders to fight for any focus in these negotiations, guaranteed us a concessionary bargaining context from the outset.

Convention delegates from the New Directions Movement (NDM) did a good job at the UAW conventions of trying to raise shorter worktime issues, no concessions and a return to trade unionism.

What did Bieber and his boys have to say at these meetings?

Here's the way they sounded in the weeks and months leading up to this agreement. Did they sell us out? Make up your own mind:

Owen Bieber: "The UAW will 'never' agree to two-tiered wages (apparently unaware that we already had two tiers.)"

What they did: The UAW actually suggested that new workers start at 75% of parity, then agreed on 70%.

Owen Bieber: "There will be no co-pays on benefits".

What they did: 32 cents an hour is diverted from the COLA to pay for benefits - the largest diversion in the history of the UAW. Added to past diversions, this means that Ford workers will be co-paying \$.81 cents per hour (more at overtime premium rates) by the end of this contract.

Owen Bieber: "This is the year we address the overtime situation at Ford."

What they did: Members took this statement to mean Bieber was concerned about the forced overtime at Ford that was putting thousands of Ford workers, especially from the assembly plants, in the hospital and otherwise raising havoc with family life. Ford work schedules

really mean that we live to work, not work to live. But, the UAW national negotiators from the UAW accepted a demand from the sub-councils for more overtime for elected and appointed reps. This demand was actually placed on the "Big Table" even while protests are being made about UAW local reps doubling, tripling and quadrupling their salaries with "free pay". This "super pay" provision adds a third tier to the wage system and creates another division within our ranks. A Region Two brother in reviewing the new language on pay for local presidents and chairs will get around \$100,000, unit committee reps \$75,000 and appointees a hefty raise and told contract presenters that it "looks like its ok to steal, we're just not supposed to steal as much." There is no voluntary overtime relief at all in the agreement for the workers. Ford has already scheduled 50 hour weeks plus Saturdays in the assembly plants.

Owen Bieber: "Don't tie my hands (with a 35 for 40 position), what if I can get you a 20-hour week?"

What they did: Ignored the international move toward reduced worktime by the German and Canadian Ford workers (36 for 40 and 37.5 for 40), continued the 50 and 58-hour mandatory work weeks for Ford workers, thereby insuring continued work injury for U.S. Ford workers while whipsawing the West Germans and Canadians. The CAW got 9 extra days off. UAW two less than the last contract. Bieber lied at the April bargaining convention when he said he was committed to shortening the work week - the only real way to provide job security.

Administration Caucus: "Sourcing needs to be a strikable issue."

What they did: Ignored their own resolution and expanded the concessionary language which insures three more years of concessions to maintain our own work and guarantees ongoing whipsawing and destruction of Solidarity between locals. The sourcing agreement places our work in direct competition with non-union workers and substandard UAW shops - of which there are now plenty! The sourcing language's bottom line is cost and competitiveness though it is couched in the nice sounding of language of "joint-speak". Increasing competitiveness among Ford locals means extending corporate whipsawing against the GM workers. While GM is being helped by the UAW to become less union like Ford, Ford is getting the same UAW help. Where does this end?

Administration Caucus: "Ford workers need job security."

What they did: Continued the "job security" programs that have cost us 126,000 Ford jobs since the 70's.

Administration Caucus: Claims to support local unions.

What they did: Expanded the "jointness" bureaucracy, programs and assignments, a direction designed to minimize the influence and autonomy of local unions.

Administration Caucus: Production standards have to be fair and work injury rates are too high.

What they did: Accepted language

from Ford saying: "That continuous improvements in all aspects of the business, including work force productivity and cost reduction, are essential to meet competitive challenges in the auto industry. In assembly and other labor intensive operations, the bulk of the opportunities relate to work force productivity and labor costs....The company must continue to use such opportunities, together with all potential cost reduction measures." These words probably won't keep many Ford workers out of surgery.

Owen Bieber: "This is an international union."

What he did: Turned his back on resolutions calling for solidarity bargaining on behalf democratic Ford unions in Mexico that could have helped protect Mexican Ford workers who are interested in working with Canadian and U.S. Ford unionists to raise Mexican wages.

What else? Extensive new language provides funds created by the so-called "overtime penalty" for training that Ford used to pay for out of its own pocket. So, in what sense are they penalized for extended overtime? Local union control of these funds is another step removed with all major decisions made in Detroit by "our partners".

Memorandums of understanding (MOA's) could run rampant. The UAW-Ford department is already on record for MOA's. 10-hour days and week-ends may soon be worked at straight time since Ford won three shift language.

Maybe the most dangerous language in the entire contract concerns our representation: The UAW and Ford discussed "...the changing roles of representatives relative to new trends in labor-management relations and participation in joint programs as well as their more traditional Agreement administration functions. In this regard, realignment of certain responsibilities as well as additional positions were recognized as ways to achieve the parties' mutual objectives. This will confirm that the parties agreed to reexamine and reevaluate the roles of the various UAW representatives provided under the agreement." This letter sets up 30 new full-time reps selected jointly (not by us of course) with details regarding their responsibilities, allocation, and placement to be determined by the UAW National Ford Department and the Employee Relations Staff of the Company."

This contract should leave no doubt in anyone's mind that the UAW has become a company union. With some of the reaction we've already seen against younger members it looks like it will be easier than ever to be pro-UAW and anti-worker.

What can we do?

We need new representatives.

We need some local reps with guts.

We need a Ford council and sub-council system that works for autoworkers instead of local hacks who think they need quarterly junkets on our dues.

We need rank and filers who are willing to stand up on the issues.

We need one-member, one vote so we can throw the sellouts in the national UAW out of office and replace them with honest, idealistic autoworkers who are willing to organize the membership.

We need a democratic union that fights for what's fair for autoworkers.

The New Directions Movement works for democracy in the UAW. We'll be talking about what can be done to make the UAW a fighting, democratic union at our annual convention in Detroit, November 12-14. New Directions is not for the fainthearted but if you believe in the importance of making our union work for us, join us as we work out a program to change the UAW to the great, social union it can be.

Tom Laney is a member of NDM at UAW Local 879, St. Paul, Minnesota.

# Revo

## Introduction

There is economic and ecological crisis all around us. It's been said the 1990s are the decade to choose between ecological hell or healing. There are only seven years left. No answer which "reforms" capitalism is good enough.

The source of ecological devastation is profit and overdevelopment. One would think this would lead the environmental movement to an analysis of ecologic issues that includes an analysis of the class war economics involved. Mostly they don't, tailing after political compromises that can't work.

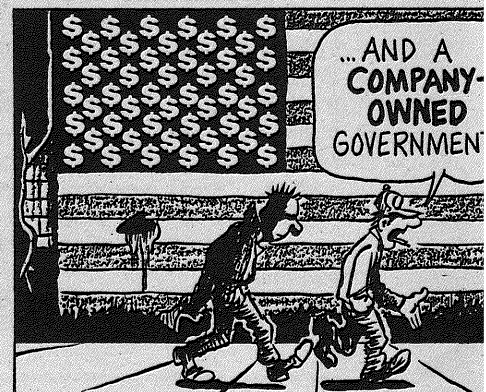
Orin Langel, IWW member and frequent IW contributor, is the North American representative of the world-wide Native Forests Network. In this article, originally published in The Alarm (a quarterly, \$10 yr from PO Box 804, Burlington VT 05402), FW Langel calls for environmentalists to incorporate a class analysis into their practice and build towards a revolution against the myriad terrors of the corporate class as the only way to save the world's forests.

## Revolutionary Ecology by Orin Langel

Revolutionary Ecology is a term used by some front-line earth activists to help define their position, commitment, and guile in dealing with the problems that are besieging the planet and all of its inhabitants. This is by no means a definitive or conclusive piece concerning an ecosophical position of Revolutionary Ecology. Hopefully, it will open up a debate that may help if we are going to effectively continue the evolutionary potential of life on earth. This is not intended to be an academic treatise simply because it was not conjured up in a programmed university setting and written by a professor this comes from the field. In this case, "field" means the place, be it a wilderness area, workplace, corporate board office or the streets, where direct action takes place.

So what is the concept of revolutionary ecology? Simply put, ecology is the interrelationship of organisms and their environment (or studies thereof) and the term revolutionary means causing a very great change. In essence Revolutionary Ecology is based on the assumption that all the conditions and circumstances affecting the development of life must be drastically changed if they are not in

# Legaliz



**capitalism cannot  
be reformed**  
chicago general membership branch



# Revolutionary Ecology



synchronization with the continuation of life itself.

Revolutionary Ecology is part of an attempt, not only to define that assumption, but to foster an implementation in a direction that furthers the continuation of existence for all species to harmoniously live on earth. As Revolutionary Ecologists we are failures if we try to promote less. To be a Revolutionary Ecologist, one must move beyond theories and put principles into practice.

But what are we assuming? In writing this communicative article I am assuming that those who read this are folks disillusioned and angry with the current condition of life on earth: ozone layer depletion, extinction of species, the end of evolutionary potential, utter collapse of life support systems, abhorrent multinationalism, industrialism, and an elite few that control the digestive tracts of the many leading people into desperation, despondency and utter degradation while our planet and all living things suffer.

Deep ecology leads us to accept that all life is equal (a biocentric or ecocentric point of view). Social Ecology teaches to terminate society's hierarchical structures in order to find ecological sanity between nature and society. Revolutionary Ecology may be the synthesis of the two.

Other points jump up that must be made. Ecofeminism explains the connections between the domination of women and the domination of nature. Revolutionary unionism details class struggle with the analysis that all of us who work for others who profit from our labor are "wage slaves" and that the em-

ploying and working classes have nothing in common. Revolutionary Ecology recognizes that all forms of life are equal and practices of domination (which runs the gamut from homophobia to racism to species-ism, etc.) are part of a control pattern that leads to the exploitation of all life forms, which includes our living, breathing planet: Gaia. An injury to one is an injury to all.

We must understand that everything is inter-connected. Multinational corporations that exploit workers and set up puppet governments in conjunction with military/industrial states (from the USA to Guatemala and hell and back) have a very direct relationship with the extinction of species and the subjugation of human beings for their profits. To the multinationals, we, all species, and the earth are viewed as resources to be gobbled up in their hideous nightmare of profit margins. Ecocide and genocide are quite profitable.

If some of the problems have been identified, how do we then begin to implement solutions to the dilemma? Alexis de Tocqueville wrote of the French Revolution that the old regime ended when popular forces coalesced in a "powerful movement of reform." Although coalescence is definitely necessary, what is reform? Is our purpose to reform a hierarchical structure, such as the Forest Service or other governmental agencies, or should we be working for the disbanding of all agencies that "MANage" life? Revolutionary Ecology is a vision for the negation of any type of management. Management leads to domination and the subsequent loss of biological diversity through the

manipulation of control and power. This is hard for many liberals and reformists to swallow because it forces them to confront their worldview. If the reform measure itself, however, prevents the extinction of a species or stops an imminent holocaust even temporarily, then we must work with the reformist toward this end.

So how can we coalesce and implement our assumptions into a powerful movement? We need to make connections and links to others in the various struggles who are consciously battling forms of repression. As earth advocates who realize evolutionary potential, we must explain our ecocentric view to others in the various movements while radicalizing the liberals and reformers in both the environmental and social change movements. Symbiotically all sides must try and understand the views we are each presenting for a holistic comprehension of how things work on earth. When understanding is achieved, the common enemy, the antithesis of life, will be easier to disassemble because there will be more of us working together on a variety of levels.

One way of stopping the enemy is through direct action at the enemy's point of production. This is why ecologists must build solidarity with the workers movements and a major reason why the ruling elite of this world have police and military at their disposal along with covert agencies to subvert any potential rise of resistance. That is also why the elite ruling class controls the flow of information through the media. Media in this country, especially television, has been perhaps the most effective tool of the corporations for numbing down the populace. People think they are getting news when in fact they are getting secret sauce put on their McClintons. Those reasons are also why Revolutionary Ecologists believe in building a broader-based movement from the many struggles. There must be more of us working together to counter disinformation and promote real education and regain a sense of community.

So what if a broader-based movement is successful in dismantling the old regimes through new collective strategies and tactics? We must look to the earth for guidance and refuse to allow hierarchical or patriarchal structures to develop. In North America (and elsewhere) we have the opportunity to draw from the traditions developed over thousands of years of existence by indigenous

people. Those who have been sucked into believing technology is the solution had better move forward by looking back to an earth wisdom that anthropocentric cultures have never offered. Instead of any move to sustainable growth, we should be looking to no growth, reduction and subsistence living.

This rambling on Revolutionary Ecology may seem too socially oriented for some ecology activists. A reason for writing this, though, is to try to call into question any type of environmental elitism and to humble us even further into a self-awareness of who we are and what we are up against.

If this seems too serious, it is only because the question is life or death. How many species of life have gone extinct during the reading of this article? How many women were raped? How many working folks ripped off by bosses? How many Rodney King-like attacks have there been?

## North American Temperate Forest Conference

November 11 - 14, 1993  
Burlington Vermont

Eminent Canadian environmentalist Dr. David Suzuki will be the keynote speaker at the first North American temperate forest conference. The conference will bring together indigenous people, forest activists, conservation biologists, and non governmental organizations. The Native Forests Network which is hosting the conference believes the forest movement must be capable of international unity while maintaining local autonomy.

Speakers include delegates from Australia & Japan, Earth First!, & the Industrial Workers of the World.

For more information:  
Native Forest Network  
PO Box 57  
Burlington VT 05402  
802-658-2403  
fax 802-863-2532

# g Company Unions: back to the 1930s



The jury is still out on whether the traditional union is necessary for the new workplace."  
Labor Secretary Robert Reich

Actually the Clinton Administrations decision is most likely already in and Labor Secretary Robert Reich comments are just an early part of a major effort to rewrite US anti-labor law in favor of the bosses. A key element of these changes in labor law will be the legalizing of company unions. The mainstream unions, in their unprincipled weakness, can be expected to go along with this backwards step. In "return" the unions may get some regulation or prohibition on the hiring of scabs during strikes. In practical terms these "protections" will prove weak and empty.

Reich and Commerce Secretary Ron Brown have appointed a business dominated committee - the Commission on the Future of Worker-Management Relations - to answer three questions that are on the minds of corporate manage-

ment; a pro-management agenda which reveals the intentions of the Clinton administration. Strategically the commission has been scheduled to report after the battle over NAFTA is done. Brown says the commission will "create a new model of worker-management relations that allows American businesses to flourish."

The commission will recommend legalizing company unions. Reich explained his philosophy this way, "What is the common denominator for success in terms of profitability and productivity? Workers and managers working together to create more profits and more productivity." Same old same old: speed-up and trickle-down.

Says President Bill Clinton "We have to make changes in the way we look at the world" and says his administration "wants to make worker empowerment and labor-management cooperation a way of life in this country." "Worker empowerment" and "labor management cooperation" are opposites. In the propaganda

speak of the politicians and bosses "worker empowerment" should be read as the same as "worker pacification" or "worker disempowerment." No discussion of real worker empowerment, taking over the means of production, is permitted in the narrow range of what passes for political discussion about these issues.

Although Clinton supported "striker replacement" legislation during his campaign he made no mention of it during his recent hour-long address to the AFL-CIO convention in San Francisco. Although Reich sought to pass this omission off as an oversight, Clinton has been silent on the subject since the election.

Company dominated "unions" were an important boss strategy in the 1920s and 30s to pacify and undermine workers. The Wagner Act responded directly to this management strategy, prohibited it, and accepted instead a basic tension of interests between labor and capital. US labor law has attempted to resolve this conflict in favor of the bosses by channel-

- continued on page 8 -



Court says, "Ooops! Anti-GM Ruling Must be a Mistake"

# Willow Run Decision Deciphered

The Michigan appeals courts have (once again) ruled in favor of General Motors, overturning a lower court decision which would have required the giant corporation to keep its Willow Run Assembly Plant open. Home town Judge Donald Shelton had scared the corporate class with a ruling that by promises made in negotiating millions of dollars of tax abatements, GM had bound itself to the Willow Run facility as long as it manufactured the models made there.

The higher courts said that ruling was a "mistake" and GM immediately began dismantling the plant. The work has been moved to the Arlington, Texas plant where the local union had made deep concessions on work rules and abandoned the eight hour work day.

The ripoff of Ypsilanti Township by General Motors is a story that has been repeated all over the US in recent decades. GM received over a billion dollars in tax abatements as a payoff for keeping an assembly plant and a transmission plant open. Meanwhile services for common folks — education, food, housing, health — have suffered terribly. "Free enterprise" means the government provides free resources to the bosses enterprises.

In the written decision the Michigan Appeals court falls all over itself trying to deny the fact that GM made promises and denying that it has to keep the promises it makes.

What the court said is a great reminder of how the legal system handles challenges to private property. It laughs them off. The IWW has always depended on rank and file direct action and solidarity, not the courts or NLRB as the way to get gains for the working class. Wrote the appeals court:

The trial court found that a promise was made from the background of defendant's negotiations for abatements and principally from Willow Run plant manager Harvey Williams' statement at a public hearing. Williams stated that "upon completion of this project and favorable market demand, it will allow Willow Run to continue production and maintain continuous employment for our employees." In the context of this background, when the plant manager, in the prepared statement on

behalf of General Motors stated that, subject to "favorable market demand," General Motors would "continue production and maintain continuous employment" at the Willow Run plant, it was a promise. The promise was clearly that if the Township granted the abatement, General Motors would make the Caprice at Willow Run and not just transfer that work somewhere else.

GM announced it would close either the Arlington or Willow Run plant. This strategy of pitting one local against another to see which will give the most concessions is called "whipsawing." The response of the UAW is to whine publicly and ignore it practically. The local at Arlington Texas, much closer to the maquiladoras, gave more shop floor concessions and GM announced it would shutdown the Michigan plant. Whether GM knew it would make this decision before getting concessions in Texas is not clear.

Repeatedly the court says something is in fact true and then rules that in law it isn't true. It all comes down to the fact that the Appeals court had the power to reverse the lower court and that the three appellate judges knew their duty to the system and so did it.

A trial court's findings of fact in an equity action are reviewable under the clearly erroneous standard. A finding is clearly erroneous if the appellate court is left with a definite and firm conviction that a mistake has been made.

The "error" here is obvious. Capitalist courts don't rule against the capitalists in any meaningful way. Judge Shelton made his ruling (whether because it was the correct thing to do or because it would help him get re-elected) so the Appeals Court, in a nonsensical ruling, says Shelton made a "mistake."

The Township had originally prevailed on its claims that it had a relationship with GM that involved "promissory estoppel," which is the trading of promises and compensation in a way that creates a promise that can be relied on where no written contract exists. Or in the courts language:

A promise which the promisor should reasonably expect to induce action or for-

bearance on the part of the promisee or a third person and which does induce such action or forbearance is binding if injustice can be avoided only by enforcement of the promise.

Municipalities public goal in granting abatements is jobs. The Appeals court admits this when it says "The very purpose of tax abatement legislation is to induce companies to locate and to continue business enterprises in the municipality." Admits it and ignores it.

The lower court had concluded that not enforcing the promise would cause injustice, that was the legal determination it had to make to enforce the promises: There would be a gross inequity and patent unfairness if General Motors, having lulled the people of the Ypsilanti area into giving up millions of tax dollars which they so desperately need to educate their children and provide basic governmental services, is allowed to simply decide it will desert 4500 workers and their families because it thinks it can make these same cars cheaper somewhere else.

The Appeals court offers three "reasons" for ruling the decision was a "mistake".

First it finds that evidence of corporate promises of jobs when getting tax breaks are not "evidence" and the fact that the only reason to give abatements is to get jobs doesn't count:

The mere fact that a corporation solicits a tax abatement and persuades a municipality with assurances of jobs cannot be evidence of a promise. The very purpose of tax abatement legislation is to induce companies to locate and to continue business enterprises in the municipality.

The dictionary tells us that "assurances" and "promises" mean the same thing. The court tells us GM's promises cannot be evidence of promises.

The "second reason" is that in order to get tax breaks the corporation by law has to promise jobs. Which is, after all, the townships point. Jobs were promised, the township gave up taxes, now the jobs are gone.

The third reason is the funniest. It translates as "corporations lie and those lies are not promises": the fact that a manufacturer uses hyperbole and puffery in seeking an advantage or concession does not necessarily create a promise.

The Willow Run plant manager told a 1988 township hearing that "upon completion of this project and favorable market demand, it will allow Willow Run to continue production and maintain continuous employment for our employees." A second GM official added "we've basically been maintaining about five thousand employees in a very consistent pattern."

The court dismisses these prepared corporate statements as "hopes and expectations", "history", "hyperbole and puffery", and "acts one would naturally expect a company to do in order to introduce and promote an abatement proposal to a municipality."

Township residents who appeared at the hearing to warn that the whole tax abatement routine is a scam are quoted by the appeals court. These folks were ignored when they made their warnings. Now those warnings are accepted as proof the rip-off was legal.

A Mr. Smith (said) "I have eighteen years in and I'd like to see them stay here twelve years so I can retire, but they are not promising anything.... There should be some kind of proof by them that they are not going to... move out."

A second nearly anonymous resident is promoted to legal authority. The appeals court wrote:

A Mr. Alford remarked that "there were some legal issues there that cannot bind (Willow Run) or Hydra-Matic to giving jobs to Ypsilanti Township."

The court does not tell us who "a Mr. Alford" might be nor what "legal issues" he refers to are being relied on by the court. The court doesn't have to. The law is not about justice, it's about power and our power is in our unions not the courts.

— Jeff Ditz

## company unions

— continued from page 7 —

ing worker energy into union bureaucracies situated to pacify the direct struggle of workers against bosses.

Legalizing company unions is the next step in the pacification process.

Company unions have several roots but one of the most direct is the attempts of the Rockefeller companies to improve their public image after the Rockefeller owned Colorado Fuel and Iron Company massacred 19 miners and family members at Ludlow Colorado by setting the strikers tent village afire. Rockefeller hired Mackenzie King, later a Canadian Prime Minister, to develop a worker pacification strategy that would appear non-confrontational from the outside. King set up a company union.

The coal company would later claim that the workers had chosen the company union themselves. There had been a "ballot"; that is bosses watched as workers cast white ballots for the company union or red ones against.

Much publicity accompanied the introduction of the "Rockefeller Plan" and the corporate rhetoric around it spoke of "industrial democracy" — a propagandistic stealing and coopting of language perfectly in sync with the more recent cooptation of "worker empowerment".

Supporters of these early company union schemes claimed there would be "open communication" between workers and bosses leading to a new era of consensus in industrial relations. Writes Rick Fantasia "Most employers introduced company unions as a method of undermining organizations that might be controlled by the workers themselves. The company union provided workers with a

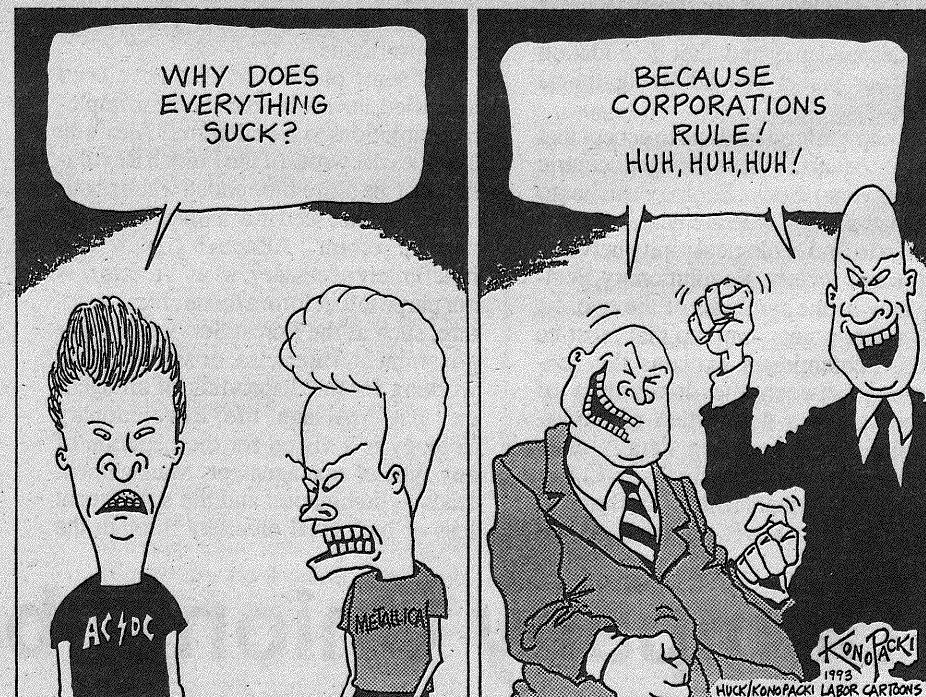
semblance of organization, while management could exercise its dominion by retaining controlling power. It was a caricature of a trade union, in which workers were involved in deciding the most innocuous of issues; decisions on important issues were made by a board that allowed the company to retain controlling votes, forestalling real organization by the workers while maintaining open shop conditions for the company. Although the company union took different forms, its essential advantage was that it could replace working-class solidarity with company solidarity, shop solidarity, or 'family factory' relations."

In some cases the CIO union in an industry — the steel and electric industries, for example — has roots in militants working to subvert the company union. No management strategy can legislate away the class struggle.

The second wave of company unions began in the 1970s with major corporations adopting "new" management schemes variously known as quality of work life, team concept, team circles and so on. These schemes all coopt the concept of "worker involvement" and establish new methods of boss control.

A decade and a half later over 80% of the largest corporations in the country have instituted some form of this management style.

In December 1992, the National Labor Relations Board surprised the business elite by ruling that labor-management schemes are company unions. The NLRB quoted the author of the 1935 law, Sen. Robert F. Wagner, "only representatives who are not subservient to the em-



ployer with whom they deal can act freely in the interest of employees." The decision sent shock waves through industry. Business groups set to work to overturn it. In Congress, legislation has been introduced to make joint committees legal, with or without union participation. The Clinton administration established the Brown-Reich commission, which is to determine: (1) what changes are needed to require labor-management cooperation and employee participation; (2) what laws need to be changed to encourage cooperative behavior to improve productivity; and (3) how workplace disputes can be kept out of the courts and regulatory agencies.

Workers in Youngstown Ohio and St. Paul Minnesota have convened Alternative Commissions and held their first public hearings on the future of labor-management relations in August. The Alternative Commission findings were very different from the governments.

It was agreed that labor-management cooperation programs as practiced do not

give workers real decision making power. As Ken Love of UAW Local 544 put it, "The let us decide what color we should paint the machines." But the big decisions — product design, capital investment, modernization — the major issues that determine whether workers will have jobs tomorrow are not open for worker input.

The Alternative Commissions have agreed that labor law should not be changed to make labor-management cooperation programs legally acceptable. Staughton Lynd summed it up, "We must rely on our own solidarity as we work to build a new kind of labor movement from the bottom up. It is helpful for rights to be protected by law, but failure to pass legislation should never be an excuse for abandoning the ideals and traditions of the labor movement. The idea that an 'injury to one is an injury to all' was put into words by a labor movement that had almost no legal protections."

Both Commissions will meet again.

— J. Ditz



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**Book Review**

## New Labor Press

**Sam Pizzigati and Fred Soloway (editors), *The New Labor Press: Journalism for a Changing Union Movement*. ILR Press (School of Industrial & Labor Relations, Ithaca NY 14853-3901), 256 pp., \$16.95.**

We're drowning in a spectacular ocean of "news" and "advertising"--the "two" often indistinguishable. We're deafened by an endless parade of commentators, yammering away in a narrow range of viewpoints on which way to support the mega-corporate elite that own the media doing the commenting.

Where are the newspapers and electronic media of the working class?

At the turn of the century the labor movement published hundreds of weekly and daily papers expressing a wide range of viewpoints, from working conditions to social revolution. Union newspapers circulating on shop floors, in saloons and communities provided forums to debate political, economic and cultural issues as well as spreading news of the day from a working-class perspective.

Unfortunately what remains of a labor press has long been a servile publicity machine under the thumb of class collaborationists. It offers nothing to the rank and file, serving institutional incumbents but ignoring (and boring) workers.

Even the most basic of information--discussion of contracts, for example--is regularly excluded from union publications. Matt Witt, contributor to *The New Labor Press*, quotes a United Mine Workers official: "You put this kind of stuff in (the UMW Journal) and all of a sudden we're going to have a stack of grievances this thick!"

The sorry condition of the labor press troubles the contributors to this book and they offer ample examples. Solutions are harder to come by. The editors propose an expensive, and largely irrelevant, nationwide publication to serve mainstream union staff. Such a project, if funded, would fail for all the reasons the current labor press is weak. That aside, the contributions that make up 90 percent of this book are worthwhile. They tell of efforts to create a new labor press. You can criticize the results, but there are important lessons here.

Video is discussed as well as print, Spanish as well as English, community issues as well as shop-floor ones. Some contributors focus on particular subjects like photography or cartoons. Witt's discussion of the UMW Journal and Dave Elsila's chapter on UAW Solidarity describe the long, slow process of making these publications more appealing in layout and design, as well as more relevant in terms of content.

Autonomea has brought out a collection of Bob Black's writings, **Friendly Fire**, bearing a fraudulent endorsement ("Truly a masterpiece. Jon Bekken, IWW") on its back cover. In fact, I have not read the book (or even been presented with a copy of it) and have little respect for Black's politics or abilities. This sorry effort to sell copies of his book through misrepresentation and fraud is surely a telling indictment of these qualities, or more precisely their absence.

Jon Bekken

## Union Leaders Scab

When The Newspaper Guild, representing reporters, advertising, clerical and circulation workers at *The New York Post*, struck Sept. 27 it seemed for a brief moment that union solidarity might carry the day. *Post* owner Rupert Murdoch was demanding the right to fire Guild members during a 4-month "trial period" (he bought the paper earlier this year) without regard to seniority and announced he would not pay workers' contractual severance payments. Murdoch had threatened to fire nearly

200 of its 287 members at the paper during pre-strike negotiations.

Almost immediately after the Guild set up its picket line, the president of the Allied Printing Trades Council--an umbrella group of production unions (Communication Workers of America, Pressmen's Union, etc.)--promised Murdoch that other unions would cross the line. Council spokesman George McDonald accused The Newspaper Guild of intransigence, saying, "I haven't heard one thing yet they gave up." (Evidently "Brother" McDonald

feels unions exist for the purpose of giving things to management.) Murdoch had reached contracts with the other 10 unions representing *Post* workers in July. Buoyed by their pledge to scab, Murdoch announced that the *Post* would publish without the Guild.

However, the *Post* did not go to press Sept. 28th. Production union members defied "leaders" and honored the Guild picket line. After a 2-hour impromptu meeting outside *Post* offices, pressmen and drivers stated they would not cross their fellow workers' picket line. Faced with this rebellion--which McDonald attributed to "a very emotional situation"--the Printing Trades Council urged The Newspaper Guild to call off the strike. Murdoch threatened to close the paper down for good if the strike was not abandoned.

Faced with this threat, and with a full-scale strike-busting campaign by Printing Trades Council leaders, the production unions crossed the picket line Sept. 30th. Murdoch aides and Council leaders assembled selected drivers, pressmen and mailers near the paper's headquarters.

While police kept picketers around the corner, each union's "leaders" walked their members through loading dock doors where they did not have to face the fellow workers they were betraying. (It may have been the first time in years that these picards saw the inside of the plant.) The union scabs then printed and distributed a 96-page edition prepared by scab writers and editors (much of it pulled off wire services staffed by union members). Ever shameless, George McDonald was quoted by the *New York Times* saying "crossing another union's picket line was a very embarrassing and unfortunate situation we're being placed in by the Newspaper Guild."

With this treachery, the Guild surrendered October 3rd. Murdoch agreed to allow Guild members to apply for their jobs and pledged to treat them "fairly." However, he refused to guarantee them preference (even though only a handful of scabs were hired into Guild positions during the strike), to maintain their pay and benefits at pre-strike levels, or to negotiate with the union. Murdoch managers said they would hire "the best and most aggressive" workers and pay "competitive" wages.

At this writing, it remains unclear how many of the Guild's members will get their jobs back or how deeply their wages will be slashed. What is clear is that the union scabbing which, nearly 90 years ago, led workers to organize the Industrial Workers of the World continues in full force.

Without the treachery of the "union" picards, supported in their lavish lifestyles by workers' dues, workers would not have crossed picketlines at the *Post*. Had Murdoch carried through on his threat to close the paper, a real union--a fighting, industrial union like the IWW--would have chased him down. In New York alone, Murdoch owns Harper Collins (one of the country's largest book publishers), the *Village Voice*, *New York* magazine and (in violation of US law) a TV station affiliated to his Fox network. All could, and should have been shut down by labor solidarity. If that was not enough to curb this voracious plutocrat, picketers could have taken the struggle to the scores of newspapers, magazines, television stations, film studios, book publishers and other businesses Murdoch operates around the world. Capitalist bloodsuckers of Rupert Murdoch's ilk know neither craft nor national lines, and have not the slightest respect for workers' rights. It's high time we organized right to dump them--and the business unions who serve them--off our backs.

--x331117

Particularly interesting is the story of former Steel Worker Larry Evans, who co-founded the lively *Mill Hunk Herald* (Pittsburgh, 1979) a rank and file cultural response to the steel companies' disinvestment. Evans' decade of work with *Mill Hunk Herald* brought him to the attention of the Service Employee International Union's cleverly named publication, *Union*. Laid off from his steel job, the *Mill Hunk Herald* burned out by lay-offs (and the resulting divorces and deaths that hit the editorial collective), Evans went to work for the SEIU.

Soon after arriving in Washington Evans and another new staffer attended a staff potluck where "our spines were shivered by tales of SEIU's frequent staff turnovers. To survive, one must, of course, 'get it'-- realize that our foremost function is public relations, not journalism. Since the union's leadership scrutinizes *Union's* every comma, the magazine is *theirs*, not ours, and not the membership's."

Evans didn't "get it," on SEIU terms and soon found himself unemployed.

The U.S. labor movement's premier cartoonists--Gary Huck of the United Electrical Workers and Mike Konopacki of the IWW *Wage Slave World News*--retell a fascinating history (with some emphasis on the IWW) of political cartooning in the US labor movement.

They ask us to "Envision a labor movement rebuilding itself, its media encouraging the best in political cartooning, satire, and art.... Labor's media must become outlets for the creative genius of American workers, breeding grounds for the satirists and artists who now toil unknown within the ranks. The voice of labor must be heard in all its incarnations, including the snicker, the laugh, and the guffaw."

This suggests the kinds of questions which need to be addressed by the working-class movement. Imagine shop floor tales of direct action, international reports of worker rebellion, analysis from a revolutionary unionist perspective, a media that celebrates and builds our working class solidarity and communities. Imagine building part of this in your union and mine.

A really new labor press will only come out of the rank and file. Desk-top publishing, copier machines, faxes and computer networks are in fact democratizing and re-energizing horizontal communications among rank and filers. If there is not yet an explosion of self-publishing from a revolutionary worker perspective, still there are more voices than there were.

What can a labor movement press be? Perhaps the experience of the volunteer-produced *Industrial Worker* offers some lessons.

## Abolish Wage Slavery



**Build Industrial  
Unions**

IW is a volunteer project happening in several cities at once. Honest communication, respect and understanding, patience and deadline meeting are all necessary ingredients in making this work. We use the phone, email and faxes to stay in touch. We find, as in other volunteer projects, that it is difficult to implement every good idea that comes along, a situation compounded by distance. We're untrained rank-and-file workers teaching ourselves how to do this.

Part of what binds us to the project is commitment to the IWW's revolutionary principles. Mainstream labor papers, their highest commitment being to the union bosses, lack this. The slickest page design, fanciest color processing and broadest distribution system are meaningless if the politics and content are empty.

Matt Witt, for example, describes the UMW Journal banning debate about strip mining while "friendly union officials were routinely worked into stories in ways that made them seem to be actively representing members' interests, even in cases when they personally were doing little or nothing to contribute to the initiative the story described. Every organizing victory was reported as a major triumph, while losses were not mentioned, much less analyzed."

The same dilemmas do come up in the IWW or a union reform movement. If the IW fails to confront our failures with honesty we will only make the same mistakes and lose again. If we promote new heroes and sheroes we lose. If we think we can out-organize the bosses with money instead of solidarity we lose.

All these political concerns get reflected in editorial choices. When the *Industrial Worker* follows an organizing story for a year and the "victory" comes up hollow or the "loss" becomes apparent, do we follow up with honesty? How do we handle Assembly discussion of the IW project (which we obviously have a stake in)? How do we separate the IW as the union's external face from the internal newsletter's role, and still maintain ruthless honesty about our organization? Can we?

While we do deal with these choices every month we mostly work together to get out the IW. And to make it more fun, both to produce and to read, we've brought the *Wage Slave World News* back from 'zine limbo. It's probably the only labor publication to use the format of the super market tabloids. The IWW is undoubtedly, as GST Harry Siitonen put it, "the only union that can laugh at itself in public." We also fill 12 pages with Wobbly news and views, international news not available elsewhere, direct action stories, and news you (hopefully) can use.

Can all this co-exist. Yes. Is it all necessary? Yes, and more. No one paper or radio show or video tape will say it all. What we need is a thousand voices of worker rebellion, of which the *Industrial Worker* is just one.

For those concerned with these questions this book is a place to start. It offers a useful survey of what is going on, some useable ideas and experiences, and a perspective on the rotten nature of the current labor press.

--Jeff Ditz

**Solidarity  
Forever**



# BLOODY MONDAY: YELTSIN PROVOKES VIOLENCE TO JUSTIFY POLITICAL REPRESSION

by Laure Akai

(Moscow) Many people wonder why the OMON didn't take precautions at Ostankino TV station, and why they did such a bad job at crowd control. Opposition plans to take Ostankino were known for 4 days, and when they finally arrived they rallied for an hour before the attack began. Troops arrived at the scene much later.

Answers are not clear. Of course people were afraid of the well-armed White House defenders. But there is speculation that part of the events were provoked by pro-Yeltsin troops to rally public resentment against the opposition. Myself and several reliable people witnessed some rather odd events.

Between 6-7 p.m., before tanks started to converge, I was standing with 2 friends outside the Mayor's building, across the street from the White House. We were surrounded on all sides by Yeltsin's troops. (Only as tanks began to roll did they try to disperse us.) We saw a woman near us take out a pistol from her pocket and begin shooting in the air. Then she slowly walked to the blown out 1st floor windows of the Mayor's building. We watched very intently, because we thought she might be a communist or nationalist (although she was too well dressed) and we thought she might try to shoot one of the soldiers. Instead, she started to talk to one of them and entered the building from the side.

At this time tanks started rolling so we went up Novy Arbat St. to Garden Ring Road to find a telephone. Before we got there, soldiers tried to make us run and create hysteria among the few hundred spectators on Garden Ring Rd. Suddenly guns started firing down the road. We ran through an archway into a courtyard, but couldn't go further because someone was firing into the courtyard from the alley. This gunfire could have only come from the troops that we had passed and who were trying to create a panic 5 minutes earlier. They were the only people there. People began firing into the courtyard from windows of a nearby house.

Dozens of people ran into the courtyard, only to find lots of gunfire so they were trapped in a small space. We finally made a run for it through the courtyard, dodging bullets. We ran further and turned back onto the Garden Ring Rd. There we witnessed general panic with lots of guns being fired at the top floors of buildings and

into the crowd.

The only people who could have been firing into the courtyard at ground level were Yeltsin's troops. Local TV reported "sniper fire" in several areas of the city by opposition rebels. They are using this fear to justify martial law.

Sure there were armed rebels on the loose. Many White House supporters went home on the 3rd and were unable to return. When the White House was besieged by Yeltsin's troops, several attempts were made by groups of people to get to the White House.

At first I assumed that people firing from windows into the courtyard were the opposition. I was aggravated that they were firing into the courtyard. I wondered if any of them actually resided in that swank neighborhood or if they broke into apartments. At this point, however, I think it was not the opposition firing into that courtyard. They were not running around the streets firing at innocent people, I know of many instances of them trying to get people out of the line of fire. They generally operated by selecting their targets and going directly for them. Why would they fire into the courtyard and not in the direction of Yeltsin's troops? And what happened to the people in the building? They weren't killed or arrested; the media would have shown them and labeled them murderers. That particular house was not even fired on or stormed. Yeltsin's troops, stationed right outside this house, did not fire up at the windows from which gunfire was coming, but rather into the courtyard where people were fleeing.

Another weird incident. Two journalists reported seeing 10 militia men shooting into the air in the Otradnoye section, just north of Moscow. Why were they there and why were they firing into the air? They suggested they were trying to create a panic. There are dozens of reports of such irregularities.

Of course little has made it into mainstream media, except English language press which almost no Russians read. The Oct.5 *Moscow Tribune* reported the violence was started by about 10 people from a crowd of 40 demonstrators. 120 Omonovtsy (special police) stood without reacting. When a *Tribune* reporter asked why they were doing nothing, he was told "We've got other goals. We have other orders."

They acted only after 45 minutes, and then only half-heartedly. It is obvious to anybody who has seen these troops in action that they deliberately let the crowd gather and storm the Mayor's building and White House. Just a few days earlier the troops had an almost airtight seal on the place, and prevented a much larger and better armed crowd from going anywhere near the building.

At Ostankino, tanks headed to the area turned back just before the attack. Why? It has even moderated like the *Moscow Tribune* asking "Could this have been a trap to encourage the violent elements on parliament's side to provide the justification the government needed to respond with the force it had sworn not to initiate?" [John Helmer, "Moscow Crisis: The First Spark," *Moscow Tribune*, Oct. 5].

How come on Oct.5, troops were shooting at "snipers" on Novy Arbat street, but put up no barrier to pedestrians? The answer is simple: for all the bullets Yeltsin's troops were firing up at rooftops, no bullets were being fired back down. One witness asked, "How can it be that they've been firing 2 days already and haven't caught the snipers? It doesn't seem like anyone's there." *Izvestia* got past the censors with an article entitled "Troops Near the White House Shot At Every thing That Moved." This is in fact what they did.

Now they keep making up stories about "snipers on the loose" and how communists were firing indiscriminantly into crowds of innocent people. They cannot hide the fact that they shot into the crowd so they have to blame the whole situation on insurgents. And many witnesses suggest that many of these "snipers" were in fact KGB or some similar Yeltsinite force.

For example, snipers at the swank Mezhdunarodnaya Hotel, which houses many shops and is adjacent to the Trade Center, were let in past security. If the hotel was stormed, how come there isn't a report in the media? How come the media describes "snipers" at the hotels as insurgents? Likely, the snipers on the heavily guarded Hotel Mir across from the White House were also from the government.

Yeltsin has a lot of blood on his hands, especially people killed in the "sniper incidents" manufactured to justify political repression.

## PARTNERS IN PRODUCTION



"So long, partner!"

## Preamble to the IWW Constitution

The working class and the employing class have nothing in common. There can be no peace so long as hunger and want are found among millions of the working people and the few, who make up the employing class, have all the good things of life.

Between these two classes a struggle must go on until the workers of the world organize as a class, take possession of the means of production, abolish the wage system, and live in harmony with the Earth.

We find that the centering of the management of industries into fewer and fewer hands makes the trade unions unable to cope with the ever-growing power of the employing class. The trade unions foster a state of affairs which allows one set of workers to be pitted against another set of workers in the same industry, thereby helping defeat one another in wage wars. Moreover, the trade unions aid the employing class to mislead the workers into the belief that the working class have interests in common with their employers.

These conditions can be changed and the interest of the working class upheld only by an organization formed in such a way that all its members in any one industry, or in all industries if necessary, cease work whenever a strike or lockout is on in any department thereof, thus making an injury to one an injury to all. Instead of the conservative motto, "A fair day's wage for a fair day's work," we must inscribe on our banner the revolutionary watchword, "Abolition of the wage system."

It is the historic mission of the working class to do away with capitalism. The army of production must be organized, not only for everyday struggle with capitalists, but also to carry on production when capitalism shall have been overthrown. By organizing industrially we are forming the structure of the new society within the shell of the old.

## No Political Solutions

(Laure Akai is a former IWW member now working in Moscow.)

Much of Yeltsin's support is due to a perception of his opponents as hard line communists (whether or not this is what they really are). At the same time, many who supported parliament did not support their policies, but saw it as the only safeguard against sped-up economic "reforms" and Yeltsin's dictatorship. Rutskoi was denounced by communists many times for selling out to Western capital; he and almost the entire parliament supported Yeltsin's ascent to power and wanted to, and still want to, carry out economic "reforms" (just not at the same pace).

The legitimacy of government relies on the belief that people cannot run their own lives and coordinate orderly society. It relies on the belief that if people had the chance to freely exercise their will, then their greed and violence would take over, and they would hurt other members of society to get what they want.

Stalinists say greed and violence has taken over because there isn't a strong government to control it. Yeltsinists imply that the prospective *nomenclatura* would rob the people's wealth and shoot people in the street. But isn't it the greed of Yeltsin's supporters, the

speculators, foreign businesses and bosses who grow rich off keeping the roubles low and paying peanuts for labor and resources -- that is responsible for the current mass poverty and upsurge in violent crime?

In any case, the government, army and police orchestrate a system where most people cannot freely determine the value of their labor, where industries can be legally owned by persons or bodies other than the workers, rendering them unable to freely dispose of the product of their labor--to use as they need or to trade for goods they need or would like.

If people got it into their heads that they would live better if they kept the profits of their labor instead of contributing to the bosses' country club fund or the state's nuclear arsenal; if somebody, having no place to live, built his or her own house; if a starving person, realizing that one should be able to feed oneself working 40 hours a week but seeing they can't now, decides to take over a piece of land and farm it--then the powers, that protect you and me from such irrational and greedy actions being carried out by the people, step in and exercise control.

But these actions are rational given the situation. What is *not* rational, is working your butt off for bread, potatoes and tea (never a home), watching "democrats" get rich off the property they sold to themselves -- or getting rich from the money invested in buying your labor so they can take what you make and re-sell it to you at a profit.

People living under years of political promises have begun to think irrationally. They believe outrageous claims and support conditions they really don't want, because they have been convinced there is no other way. The Russian people are now going through a phase of optimal public stupidity. One ex-Komsomol leader claims to be God and people follow... people refuse to believe that Stalinist purges happened, and if they did, then only to the guilty... there is an unprecedented belief in horoscope and faith healers... people forget Yeltsin was part of the *nomenclatura*... people stand in line for hours to look in Western department stores... workers who had their strike crushed by Yeltsin blindly and fervently support him.

The only remedy will be when

people begin to get interested in taking back active control of the processes that rule their lives, and work with each other to make life enjoyable rather than crossing their fingers at the ballot box.

Skeptics argue that this alternative may not lead to a great life. But the question is not, will this lead to a workers' paradise -- although what could be worse than waiting 40 years to get an apartment, working all the time, being unable to feed yourself or family, hoping there is no civil war, that the value of roubles won't fall, watching government corruption hopelessly? The point is to start a movement where people help themselves and each other, take initiative to do something without waiting for government to set up a program -- where people respond to immediate needs of the community in a timely and logical manner.

Russians in many ways have been conditioned out of such responses as such initiative threatened the totalitarian Soviet government. Still they are capable of organizing things for themselves, as during the last coup when they organized shelter, free food, distribution of gas masks, etc., all on their own initiative.



# MUSIC

## AS SEEN ON NO TV

**Chris Chandler**  
Funny, biting, young and raw. Chandler sings of the "Whole Wheat Left", growing up in the "Watergate Generation", and laughs at Dan Quayles "Republican Woodstock." More street than studio. Fun.

**IT TAKES A LOT OF PEOPLE** (tribute to Woody) **Larry Long & Children**  
Live album of Woody Guthrie songs and songs written by Long and children of Oklahoma as tributes to Woody. "Bound for Glory", "Oh Freedom", & "This Land is Your Land".

**I HAVE SEEN FREEDOM** **Si Kahn**  
Long time organizer & folksinger Kahn sings of people and struggle. "John Brown", "El Norte", "They All Sang Bread and Roses" and 13 more songs.

**GOOD NEWS**  
**Sweet Honey in the Rock**  
"Biko", "Chile Your Waters Run Red Through Soweto" and nine others on this gospel based, a cappella, irresistible album by six activist women. ALSO AVAILABLE "We All ... EVERYONE OF US"

**DON'T MOURN, ORGANIZE**  
Compilation of Joe Hill songs and stories. Billy Bragg, Haywire Mac, Paul Robeson and a new song by Mark Levy about the return of Hill's ashes to the IWW in 1988.

**ALL USED UP**  
**Utah Phillips**  
Classic Utah Phillips album. Wobbly songs, burn songs and love songs. "Dump the Bosses Off Your Back", "Pretty Boy Floyd" and 17 more!  
ALSO AVAILABLE: "WE HAVE FED YOU ALL FOR ONE THOUSAND YEARS"

**OUT OF DARKNESS**  
**Tom Juravich**  
Coal mining songs from this excellent Philadelphia IWW musician includes "Tell the Boys at Pittston", "Blair Mountain", "Company Store", "Ludlow Massacre".  
ALSO AVAILABLE: "A WORLD TO WIN".

**HAYWIRE MAC**  
**Harry McClintock**  
Songs and early Wobbly stories from Haywire Mac, friend of Joe Hill and first to sing "Preacher and the Slave" in public.

**REBEL VOICES: IU 630 IWW**  
Exciting live recording captures the high energy of today's IWW musicians. Good music, good politics, and a good time.  
Includes Utah Phillips, Faith Petric, Bob Bovee, Marion Wade, Eric Glatz, Kathy Taylor, and more. Twenty IWW tunes "Power in a Union", "The Organizer", "Popular Wobbly", "Mr. Block".

**SMASH THE STATE AND HAVE A NICE DAY**  
**Citizens Band**  
A Wobbly band from Olympia Washington. Great stuff. "Red Emma", "Industrial Strength Tranquilizers", "Gas Wars", and "Bullshit."

**HARD-PRESSED IN THE HEARTLAND**  
**Peter Rachleff**  
Rachleff was a participant and observer in the hard fought struggle of P-9 against the Hormel Company and the UFCW. A heartbreaking but empowering story. Though the Hormel strikers lost their strike suggests the necessary outlines for the rebirth of a militant, community based unionism that can succeed where business unions fail. \$12

**CRYSTAL GAZING THE AMBER FLUID**  
**Carlos Cortez**  
Long time IWW artist Cortez' poetic take on life in the late 20th century. Poetry expressing the IWW slogan, "Let's make this world a better place to live". \$4

**REBEL VOICES**  
**Joyce Kornbluh, ed.**  
Re-issue of Kornbluh's important anthology of early IWW art, articles and songs. Includes a new article on Wobbly cartoons by Franklin Rosemont and an updated bibliography. \$22

**STRIKE!**  
**Jeremy Brecher**  
The history of US workers struggle from the workers point of view. Argues that class upsurge is based in everyday life and rank & file initiative. \$15

**LITTLE RED SONGBOOK**  
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**Staughton Lynd**  
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**Sam Dolgoff**  
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**MEMOIRS OF A WOBBLY**  
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### ...Wobblies There!

*continued from page 3*

multinational corporations as the power elite of the new world order.

7. **Equality.** The Wobblies have always stood for equality and solidarity of all ethnic groups, races, genders and sexual preferences. The IWW vigorously opposes discrimination on any of these grounds.

8. **Environment.** Relentless destruction of our life-sustaining environment, caused by corporate greed for profits, is an issue of great concern for Wobblies. While trying to organize forest workers and save the forest, IWW/EarthFirst! organizers were nearly killed by a car bomb in 1990. But organizing efforts continue among forest and maritime workers, as well as various coalitions taking place to oppose toxics and make industry responsible.

So what are the outlines of the future society of equality and cooperation, which Wobblies envision as the fruit of their labors? Most of use would see it as libertarian socialist, without the domination of economic or state bureaucracies, but with workplace

and community self-management by the ordinary people. Community and industrial functions would be decentralized, interconnected by lateral networking.

We do not presume that all workers will flock into One Big Union to create Heaven On Earth with one millennial upheaval. Our beloved elders of the left were optimistic about a socialist society in their lifetimes, perhaps too simplistic about what could be accomplished. A critical look at revolutions during the past 75 years is sobering.

The IWW will be acting in concert with other movements and workers of similar vision, to strive to bring about a world without bosses -- without heirarchy or domination, for as long as it takes. We will use methods compatible with our ends.

(Edited, from Harry Siitonen's article in Tyomies-Eteenpain, (Worker Forward), Finnish-American weekly Sept. 9/93).



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# Wage Slave World News

TRASHY JOURNALISM FOR THE WORKING CLASS





**CLINTON'S  
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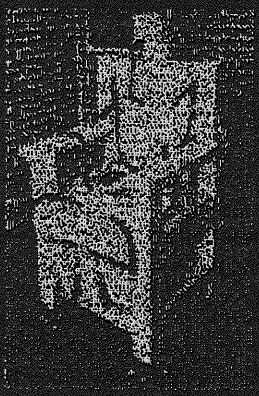
NOVEMBER, 1993

VOL. 4, NO. 8

**"DON'T WORRY,  
RICH WHITE MEN  
WILL HEAL OUR  
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**SHOULD  
ANIMALS  
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***Death  
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Tarom, a New Jersey canine, was pronounced vicious in 1991 and has spent more than 1,000 days on death row at the Bergen County New Jersey jail, running up at least \$100,000 in legal costs and upkeep fees!

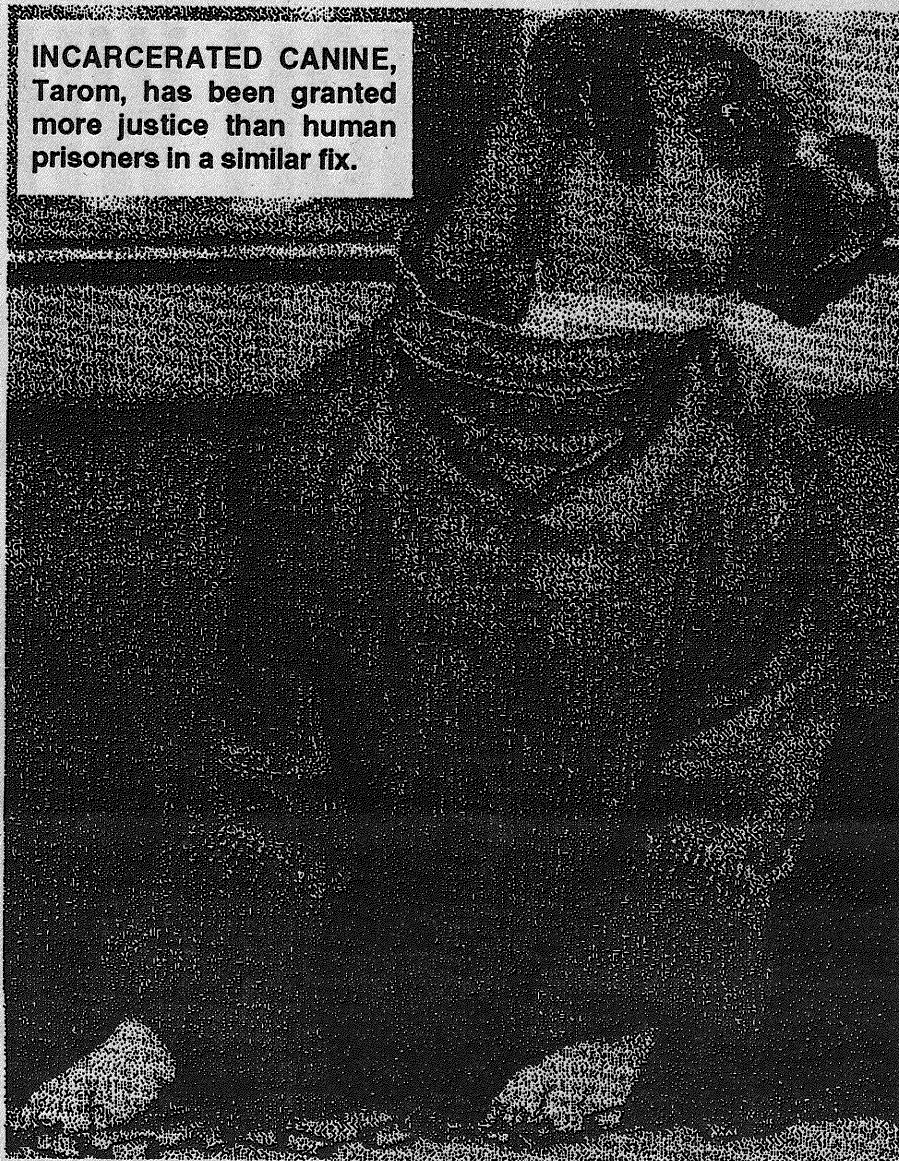
In a bizarre tale of twisted justice, New Jersey's courts have been deliberating whether this pet has violated New Jersey's "vicious dog" law and whether the malevolent mutt should be executed. Ironically, the U.S. Supreme Court has ruled that proof of evidence is not sufficient to block execution of humans. The criminal canine was charged with injuring the lower lip of a visiting child. The state says she was bitten, the owners say it was a swipe with a paw.

A state legislator, who authored the law, has asked the Governor to grant executive clemency if the New Jersey Appeals Court fails to reverse the death sentence. Actress Bridgette Bardot has written the governor adding her voice to the cause.

"If the court says the dog must be put to death, we'll ask the Governor to pardon the dog," Assemblyman (Joseph) Azzolina said. "He can grant executive clemency for dogs, too, I think."

The dangerous dog is being held in an air-conditioned kennel. Its owner, who runs a limousine company, has spent at least \$25,000 of the money his wage-slaves have earned to defend the dog. The county estimates its spent \$60,000 on the trial and two subsequent appeals, and about \$18,000 for keeping Tarom in jail as the death-row dog.

INCARCERATED CANINE, Tarom, has been granted more justice than human prisoners in a similar fix.



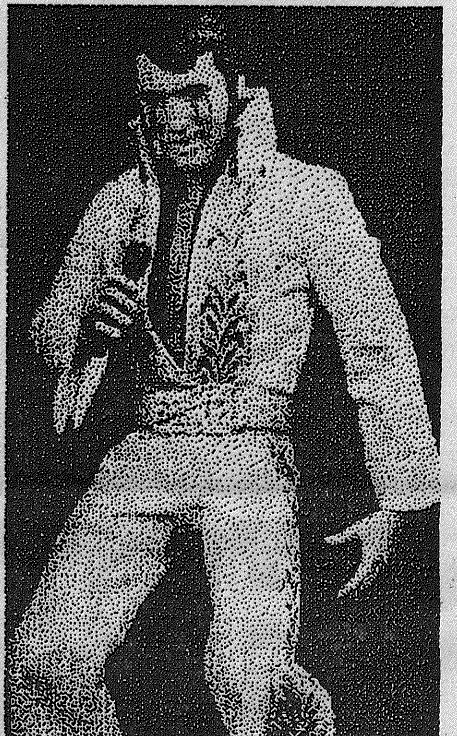
## DEAD ELVIS STATUES CRY REAL TEARS!!

STATUES OF ELVIS from all over the world have been crying real tears since the King of Rock 'n' Roll was fired from his job as 'Dead Elvis'!

After his unexpected lay-off earlier this year, statues and figurines, from Jim Beam bottles to ceramic statuettes, have been mourning the economic plight of 'Dead Elvis'.

"This is tragic," said one distraught statue owner. "Not even the King is safe from the brutality of the market place."

Elvis watchers warn of dire world-wide consequences if The King does not get his job back. "We could be in for a global working class revolution unless Elvis is re-hired," said a leading 'Dead Elvis' expert.



A DISTRAUGHT STATUE of 'Dead Elvis' cries real tears after learning of Elvis's lay-off.

## WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS

# VIRTUAL CLASSIFIED

Editor: Kerry Stephenson

### \*\*\*ADOPTION\*\*\*

DELIRIOUSLY HAPPY young white Christian couple wants to adopt your unwanted minority or handicapped child. If you are poor and downtrodden, and unexpectedly pregnant, consider selling us your flesh and blood for real cash money. We'll be better parents than you will, we guarantee it. Do the right thing; give it to us. Contact Adolf and Eva, box 666.

SATANISTS seeking children for ritual sacrifice. We pay top dollar. Reply to Axl, box 252

### \*\*\*ASTROLOGY/PSYCHICS\*\*\*

WHAT IS FIDO THINKING? World's top pet psychic will read your dog, cat, rabbit, or hamster over the phone. Consultant for all pet related issues: toys, sleeping arrangements, breeding questions. No birds or invertebrates, please. Sister Katrina, box 2

PSYCHIC SEX line! Our world-class, board-certified professional psychic readers will provide you with all the details of your very next sexual experience. \$5.95/minute; most calls average \$10. Lady Luck, box 82, for more information. Serious inquiries only.

I HAVE A MESSAGE FOR YOU! Yes, you! And you

know who you are! If you want to know what the message is, send \$50 to box 73. Money orders only. Sorry, no checks or credit cards.

LIVE PSYCHICS WILLING TO TALK TO THE DEAD FOR YOU! We at the Life and Death Institute know that it can often be uncomfortable for the living to speak to the dead. Let our trained counselors get your information for you! Basic rates are reasonable, with slightly higher rates for contacting the evil dead. Mephisto, box 16.

### \*\*\*AUTOMOTIVE\*\*\*

1984 Toyota Tercel. No mileage. Driven only once, to run over pedestrian. Paint slightly chipped. Must sell prior to December 15, 1993, or after December 15, 2015. Bob, box 22.

MUST SELL NOW! Quick, while my boyfriend's out of town, buy his car so I can buy some drugs! Offer not valid after December 5. Contact Mindy at box 106.

### \*\*\*BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES\*\*\*

MAKE CRAPPY SOUVENIRS AT HOME IN YOUR SPARE TIME! Helpful guide gives you all the info you need to produce carnival-level watches, statues, stuffed animals, etc. A gold mine for just \$45.95. Send money order or cash to Mr. Carnival's 3D House of Crap, box 750.

COULD YOU USE FIFTEEN MILLION DOLLARS? What for? Tell us and we might publish your answer in our new forthcoming best-seller, "Things Average People Would Do If They Had Fifteen Million Dollars." Send \$35 to cover printing costs, along with your name, address, phone number, and essay of 500 words or less, "What I, An Average Person, Would Do If I Had Fifteen Million Dollars," to Project Million, box 82. Some proceeds may go to AIDS research.

HOW STUPID ARE YOU? Send \$50 to find out. Stupidity Test plus answers. An additional \$25 gets you the Deluxe model. Send money orders or cashiers' checks to Candy From Babies, box 048.

### \*\*\*EDUCATION/INSTRUCTION\*\*\*

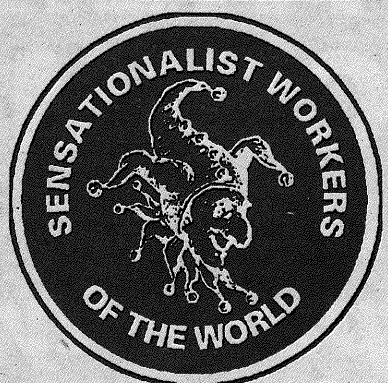
ANSWERS! LSAT, GMAT, SAT, ACT, and much, much more! Void where prohibited by law. Send \$50 to Lt. Vinnie, box 521. Sorry, no VMI, Westpoint, or other military info available at the moment.

LEARN TO EAT in your own home! Now you can learn where the forks go "before" you have to be humiliated in public! \$25 to Miss Smarty-Pants, box 837, for the book "What to Do with Food."

### \*\*\*HEALTH/NUTRITION\*\*\*

STOP SMOKING NOW! You heard me! Stop it! Right now! For details, contact Helpful Hillary's Health Care Haven, box 995.

## WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS



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NOVEMBER, 1993

Official organ of  
the Sensationalist  
Workers of the World  
Editor: Mike Konopacki  
Writer: Jeff Ditz

This is a constitutionally protected magazine of political satire. Any similarity to actual persons is intentional.



## SECRET NATIONAL HEALTH CARE PLAN REVEALED!

**SHRINES TO GODS OF HEALING TO BE SET UP IN EVERY STATE!**

# MILLIONS WILL FLOCK TO SHRINES OF RICH WHITE MEN AND BE HEALED!

**RICH WHITE MEN WILL HEAL AMERICA** in an astonishing new health care plan secretly designed by President Clinton!

The president's new health care plan, which has been disguised as 'managed competition' is really a massive program to set up shrines to rich white men. "The sick will pilgrimage to these shrines and be healed," an expert quoted in the secret documents said.

"After months of exhaustive study, we have concluded that the health and preservation of rich white men is the key to all our health care needs," exclaimed the expert. The administration plans to erect shrines to rich white men in every state in the union. Pilgrims from each state will then approach the shrines on their knees and be healed of all that ails them.

"Once our plan is fully in effect, we will see thousands of thankful Americans chanting, praying, and carrying the sick and infirm with them to these health care



shrines," said Hillary Rhodam Clinton, the president's wife and one of the architects of this ingenious health care miracle.

"At a time when our national soul cries out for healing we are grateful that the rich white men of America have selflessly taken on the task," Mrs. Clinton said.

**MTVidiots suffer break-downs after hearing the news!**

# BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD ARE DRAWN BY KOREAN SLAVES!

**BEAVIS AND BUTT-HEAD**, MTV's pyromaniacal protagonists, suffered massive nervous break-downs after learning that they are drawn by Korean wage-slave animators!

"This sucks," said Beavis. "I'm so bummed I can't even think of any butt jokes," moaned Butt-head.

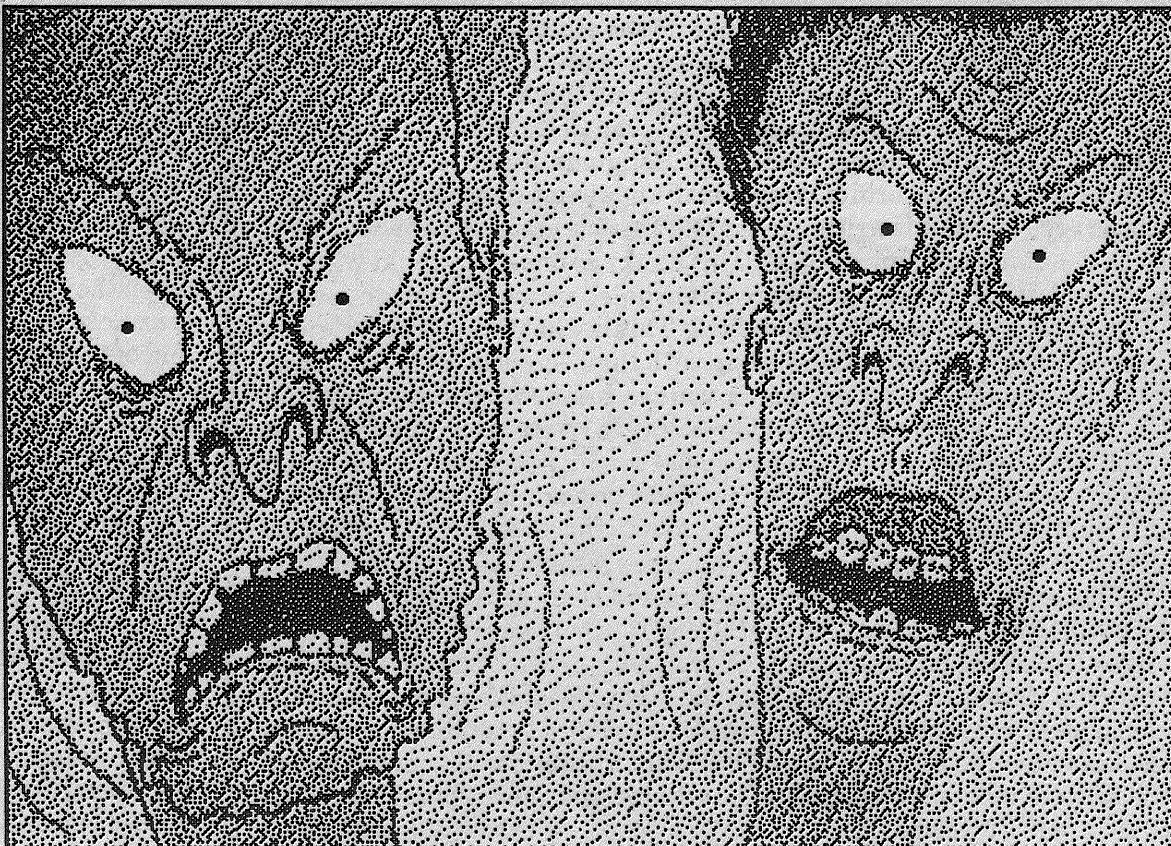
According to the *New York Times*, Beavis and Butt-head are drawn by a team of animators in Korea. The *WAGE SLAVE WORLD NEWS* had previously reported that the *Simpsons* were also drawn by Korean wage slave cartoonists.

Motion Picture Screen Cartoonists Local 839 (IATSE) reports that the bulk of American animated cartoons are now produced in Taiwan, the Philippines and Korea, where unions are brutalized and animators are forced to work for slave wages. More non-union animation studios are springing up to prevent cartoonists from receiving living wages.

In the past, Local 839 has charged non-union animation studios with violating wage and hour laws by not paying their cartoonist chattel overtime.

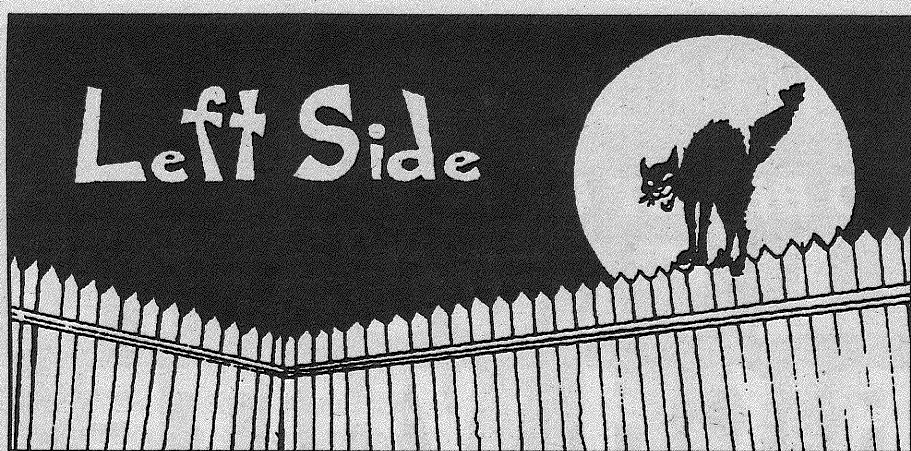
If being drawn by slaves isn't bad enough, Beavis and Butt-head were blamed for the death of a two-year-old girl when her five year-old brother set his family's mobile home on fire after watching the TV show. MTV has announced that it will delete all references to fire in future episodes of the cult hit.

To top it off Mr. Rogers, of *Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood*, has also criticized the show, calling on producers to turn out higher-quality shows for kids.



Artist's conception of MTV vidiots Beavis and But-head suffering from a nervous-breakdown after learning that they are drawn by South Korean wage slaves.





Our antediluvian ancestors in their daily struggle for survival had their own way of coping with the capricious whims of the natural forces that surrounded them. They merely personified these forces of nature and endowed everything around them with a personality. In that way our distant ancestors developed a manner of living in harmony with the natural forces that surrounded them as well as a respect for other forms of life. With this knowledge of living in harmony with the natural surroundings our species was able to plant crops and no longer have to depend completely on the availability of animal flesh or seasonal vegetation. They were able to live in communal settlements and develop what is today known as civilization and culture. Unfortunately there were those among our number who were able to gain more than their equitable share of the wealth that nature provides and thus the institution of private property was established. Those who were able to possess more than their share of what was needed for survival used their excess to control their fellow humans. Furthermore they took the simple personification of nature and perverted it into various forms of ritualized dogma and thus organized religion came into being. The form of ritualized dogma that eventually dominated our Planet was naturally the one that best supported and perpetuated a class society. The polytheistic religions lost out because people still had a choice of deities to believe in rather than to obey the dictates of a central authority and today this planet's people as well as the natural resources are under the domination of those who profess the "Judeo-Christian Ethic". It must be understood at this point that this article is not an attack on the adherents of Judeo-Christianity but on those who use it to further their own ends. George Bernard Shaw was once asked what he thought about Christianity and his reply was, "Sounds like a wonderful idea. We should try it sometime." While those whom profess the Christian faith may look down their noses at the religious practices of those whom profess other religions they would do well to reflect on their own religious history. In the name of Jesus some quite dastardly acts have not only been sanctioned but aggressively promoted. The pogroms of Eastern Europe, the immolation of "heretics" in medieval Spain, the extermination camps of recent history and every war always had its men of god blessing the soldiers to go out and kill each other, even if those who they were sent out to kill happened to be co-religionists! Here in Freedomland those who identify themselves as "operation rescue" take fiendish delight in harassing women who do not choose to give birth while saying nothing about minority women who have been sterilized without their knowledge or consent. Those who happen to prefer the sexual company of their own gender do not fare any better from those sanctimonious ones who are identified as the Religious Right. The "separation of church and state" that was professed by the Founding Mothas of Freedomland, has to be taken with a grain of salt since all their money has "IN GOD WE TRUST" written all over it. The professed impartiality towards religious belief is belied by the consistent harassment of the practitioners of indigenous religions and the erecting of Christmas trees in schools where the predominant student population is Jewish. However this is not sufficient for those of the Religious Right. These babies of the Religious Right are so unecumenical that even Catholics and some of their fellow Protestants oppose them. The Religious Right is interested in promoting their own form of Protestant Fundamentalism and they believe that everything as it is written in the Old Testicle actually happened, such as God making the Sun stand still in the sky so one army could wipe out another or that Jonah could stay in a whales stomach for many weeks without being converted to whale dung. This is what they like to be taught in the schools of Freedomland along with their "creationism." If you can get people to believe such whoppers, you can get them to believe anything. That is the reason they want bible-reading to be made mandatory in the public schools and to censor any type of reading that would encourage young minds to think independently. They do their utmost to get elected into public office so they get their form of religion forced on all that attend public schools. It won't matter if you are Catholic, Jewish, Buddhist, Moslem or whatever, it is their prayers and their prayers only that the kids will be allowed to say. Jimmy Swaggert in between his flings with the shady ladies, expounds on the boob toob with his emotion choked folksy voice the virtues of patriotism and the fear of God and a host of equally charismatic bible-thumpers are right behind him to establish a redneck theocracy here in Freedomland. They want to eliminate sex education in the schools while at the same time eliminating school breakfasts as if there are not already too many hungry people. If these bible-thumpers have their way, all one can hope for is pie in the sky.

by C.C. Redcloud

**WE DESERVE MORE HOLIDAYS THAN THE BOSSES!**

## LET'S ALL TAKE MONDAYS OFF!

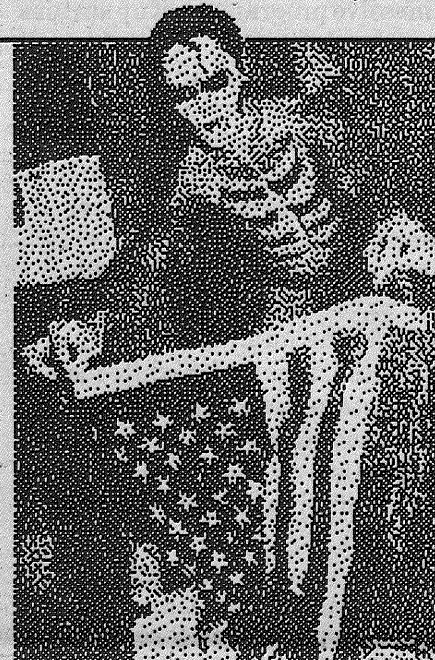
We're back into the season of Hallmark Holidays. Sweetest Day, Bosses Day, Secretaries Day. Bosses holidays all. Commercialized to the hilt.

Even the holidays with real reasons behind them - the seasonal change celebrations of birth and life and death that all cultures have - are cardboard and tinsel from Hallmark now. No doubt some enterprising New Age entrepreneurs have figured out how to market pagan holidays too. Count up all the holidays the bosses either made up purely for marketing or took over. A dozen and a half maybe? Now think about how many more of us there are than of them. Don't we deserve more holidays than the bosses? Used to be Mondays were St. Monday and folks didn't go to work. That's a good tradition and we should work back to it. Monday off work means the four day work

**Derek Akshun's**

**INDIG-**

**NATION**



week and 52 more holidays a year. Think about it. Now realistically if several million working folks all took off Monday we'd probably get away with it. But realistically that ain't gonna happen next week. We can start celebrating Mondays before we get everyone to go along with it. What we do is declare Monday a holiday on the job. Go to work - but be lazy. If you work in a restaurant give food away. If you drive a bus, declare no fare day. If you work in manufacturing, shut something down and repair slooowly. Postal workers can refuse to deliver bills on Monday. Office workers do things that make the boss hire more

**We declare Monday a holiday.  
We go to work - but be LAZY!!**

people. Y'know what I mean? Every job has some way to Give the Boss the Blues on Monday. At Caterpillar, using what they call an "inside strategy" there are days where everyone wears rabble-rousing tee-shirts. At the People's Wherehouse the Wobblies would declare extra long Solidarity lunches. Staley workers plastered the walls with rank and file graffiti and posters. The bosses have lots of the special days when they push production up. In retail and the post office its all the craziness at the end of the year. Manufacturing bosses push at the end of the month to meet monthly goals. Cops stop people on certain days to catch up on quotas. Politicians get legitimized every two or four years, and go on being illegitimate all the days in between. So every Monday let's give it back to them with lower production. A holiday is a shared day, a shared experience builds credibility, strength and numbers. When 100,000's or even a couple of million rally in Washington or New York or San Francisco the buzz that people get being in a crowd of like minded folks is often the most positive thing about the day. It isn't the speeches. It isn't like the government institutes reform or the corporations concede the means of production. The major effect is the positive effect on the participants. But it is so far removed from everyday life. What we need is more celebration right here and right now. Every Monday celebrating Giving the Boss the Blues. So send forth a call to give your boss a bad Monday. Why should you and I have the Monday Blues. Why not give the boss the blues instead. Let's see them co-opt this. Wrap it in cellophane, mark it with a price and sell it back to us. Hah.

- Derek